

THE North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England, ...	Dec. 24	Hankow, ...	Jan. 29
San Francisco, ...	51	Yokohama, ...	25
Hongkong, ...	Jan. 29	Nagasaki, ...	29
Tientsin, ...	15	Foochow, ...	19

The French mail of 23rd December, arrived in London on the 28th inst.

BIRTHS.

At 6, Albany Gardens, Shanghai, on the 27th inst., the wife of WILLIAM YOUNGSON, Examiner, of the Imperial Maritime Customs, of a son.

At No. 5, Amoy Road, Shanghai, on the 31st January, the wife of JOHN M. THISTLE, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 18th November, 1886, at St. James's Church, Piccadilly, by Rev. Willis F. A. Lambert, HENRY J. DYER, of Shanghai, China, to BESSIE, only daughter of Charles Davis, New Malden, Surrey.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Yokohama Maru*, for Kobe—Mr. F. Drage. For Yokohama—Messrs. Paul Geniv and Nakasawa Kichi.
Per str. *Kiangfoo*, for Hankow—Messrs. C. W. Davies and J. G. Watson.
Per str. *Peking*, for Hongkong—Mr. Bjonsbery.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Thames*, from London—Messrs. W. A. Cornabé, C. C. Dormer, C. Cheshire, C. Beasant, J. Hamer, Malashkin, and Baranoff.
From Calcutta—Mr. J. H. Reid, From Singapore—Mr. and Miss Beauchamp. From Hongkong—Sub-Lieut. P. O. Lewis, R.N.
Per str. *Océanien*, from Marseilles, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Bishop, Mr. and Mrs. Pratt, Madame Dufau, Messrs. Cubizollo, Samoy, Tomasini, Piezzo Lounga, Philippot, Widler, Ming Yong, Yuen Chung, Kim Sang Aoo, Han Heng Tach, Kim Kilt Hau, Davis, J. B. Saul, Bercoitz, and W. H. Caldwell.

Per str. *Satsuma Maru*, from Japan—Mr. and Mrs. Haskell, Miss Merrill, Mrs. Dunn, Capt. Morrison, and Mr. J. Rosenbaum.

Per str. *Sual*, from Hankow—Messrs. Charles Revers, Alphonso Meo, B. M. Gray, Thomas Lang and Dr. H. Winn.

Per str. *Fushun*, from Hongkong—Messrs. Lancaster, Montgomery and Ritchie.

Per str. *Taiwo*, from Hankow—Mr. Dunn.
Per str. *Ngankin*, from Kiukiang—Mr. Bloudin. From Chinkiang—Messrs. Garrick and Emery.

Per str. *Yuenoo*, from Hankow—Messrs. Franklin (U.S. Consul), and Crosby.

Per str. *W. Cores de Vries*, from Kiukiang—Mr. C. Gordon Lowder.

LEAVING.

Per str. *Anadyr*, for Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. E. Burmeister. For Hongkong—Mrs. Sassoon, child and amah, Mrs. Jacchia, Miss Levy, Messrs. A. J. Leach, Durran, H. Baker and A. Giltzow and servant.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer		Thermometer		Hygrometer		WIND.		Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
	10 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Max.	Min.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Force.	Direction	
Jan. 27	30.40	36.0	37.0	32.0	36.0	35.0	1	N.	..
28	30.30	39.0	39.0	34.0	39.0	38.0	2	N.E.	..
29	30.10	41.0	42.0	36.0	41.0	40.5	1	N.W.	..
30	30.20	37.0	41.0	36.0	37.0	36.0	1	N.W.	..
31	30.25	37.0	39.0	35.0	37.0	36.0	1	"	..
Feb. 1	30.30	37.0	38.0	32.0	37.0	35.0	1	"	..
2	30.27	33.5	36.0	31.0	35.5	32.0	2	"	..

EXPLANATION.
Initials:—b blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull) & calm; s. snow; t. thunder; x. calm. Force from 1 to 21 estimated.

Advertisement.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACT 1883.

In the High Court of Justice.
No. 582 of 1886.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

Re EZRA EDMUND HARRIS residing at No. 5 Morden Road Blackheath in the County of Kent and FELIX GOODWIN residing at Hermon Hill Wanstead in the County of Essex carrying on business in co-partnership as General Merchants under the

style or firm of HARRIS, GOODWIN & Co. at 101 Leadenhall Street in the City of London and at 91 Shadwell Street Birmingham in the County of Warwick and at Shanghai in the Empire of China and at the Island of Hongkong and at Singapore in the Straits Settlements and at Brisbane in the Colony of Queensland and at Sydney in the Colony of New South Wales and at Christchurch in the Colony of New Zealand and also trading in co-partnership as General Merchants under the style or firm of HARRIS & GOODWIN at Batavia in the Island of Java.

I, HENRY GODFREY, of 22, Queen Street, Cheapside, London, E.C., Chartered Accountant, hereby give notice that I have been duly appointed and certified by the Board of Trade as Trustee of the Estate of the above-named Debtors, a scheme of arrangement having been approved by the Court. All persons having in their possession any of the effects of the debtors must deliver them to me, and all debts due to the Estate must be paid to me. Creditors who have not yet proved their debts must forward their proofs of debt to me.

HENRY GODFREY,

Trustee.

Dated, 6th October, 1886.

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PRICE OF THE NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE.—Per Annum, Tals 12; Six Months, Tals 6.50. Three Months, 3.50—all payable in advance. Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum; Subscriptions will be considered as renewed unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 2, 1887.

THE two judgments which were delivered by Sir Richard Rennie on Saturday last are both of considerable interest, the one in the appeal from Tientsin being of more general concern, and the one in favour of Mr. Benjamin more personal. It is an understood thing that liquidators have no bowels; and it is the feeling that the recent case against Mr. Benjamin was a piece of persecution that has made the decision of the Chief Justice so popular. Mr. Benjamin was a shareholder in the London, Bombay and Mediterranean Bank, Limited, one of the numerous rockets that rose in the Bombay Back Bay excitement twenty-three years ago, and came down like the stick, bringing destruction on the heads of its shareholders, two years afterwards. By a Balance Order, as it is called, of the Court of Chancery, Mr. Benjamin, one of many victims, was ordered in 1871 to contribute £1,600 to the official liquidators of the company. In 1880 the liquidators got a judgment against Mr.

Benjamin in the High Court of Bombay, enforcing the Balance Order, on the representation to the Bombay Court that Mr. Benjamin was then a resident in India, an assistant to Messrs. Sassoon of Calcutta. It was proved that this was a misdescription, that Mr. Benjamin was only in India once for a few days since 1867, and that therefore the Bombay Court had not the necessary jurisdiction, and Sir Richard Hannie decided that the "judgment and upon is not binding upon the defendant and cannot be enforced against him by this Court:" and the general feeling is that any other decision would have been very hard.

In the *Paumben* case, points of fact as well as of law were involved. It was an appeal from the Consular Court at Tientsin; and it may be taken as a general rule that where a case turns on facts, a Consular Court may give a right decision, but where it turns on law, it is almost certain to give a wrong one. In this case the facts were as simple as possible. Messrs. A. Cordes & Co. were the consignees of a quantity of glass by the steamer *Paumben*, a large quantity of which arrived at Tientsin smashed. They telegraphed to the shippers to discover whether the glass had been insured with average, and finding that it was only covered free of particular average, they claimed against the steamer. The steamer pleaded that an unusually violent sea had been met in the Gulf of Pechili which had caused abnormal rolling, and that the breaking of the glass which resulted came under the exception in the bill of lading as a peril of the sea. The Tientsin Court held that it was not sufficiently proved that the sea at the time of the damage was of so "phenomenal a character as to have jerked the cargo from its place in the hold notwithstanding the greatest care in stowing"; and that the damage was in effect due to bad stowage of the glass, and they found against the steamer. The chief justice here so far agrees with the Court at Tientsin, but now the divergence comes in. The *Paumben* called at Saigon on her way out, and landed some 400 tons of cargo, and this necessitated the shifting of some of the window glass for the purpose of retrimming the ship, and, as is very natural, the shifted cargo was not as well stowed as it had been originally, and hence the damage. The counsel for the consignees of the glass could not deny that this shifting for the purpose of trimming the ship was an act of management or navigation within the meaning of the usual exception in the bill of lading, and on this ground the judgment of the Tientsin court was very properly reversed. For the safety of the ship it was necessary to restow a portion of her cargo, and in consequence of this restowage the damage occurred, and it would have been obviously very hard if the ship had had to pay for the consequent damage. It is very certain that the

owners of the steamer never contemplated the possibility of having to pay for such damages nor did the shippers contemplate having to be paid for it, for shipowners and shippers enforce and accept bills of lading nowadays, the object of which is to render the shipowner liable for nothing, except wilful destruction of property, or theft, and to throw every other imaginable loss on the shipper or his insurer: and in this very case it would appear that the consignees would have allowed that the damage to the glass was a peril of the sea, had the glass been insured with average. There can be little doubt that the captain and officers of the *Paumben* did their best in the present case; and that it would have been very hard if the judgment of the provincial Court had been confirmed; in fact, substantial justice was done here both in the Benjamin and *Paumben* cases.

Summary of News.

The French mail of 17th Dec. arrived here on the 30th ult., by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Océanien*.

The English mail of 24th Dec. arrived here yesterday, by the P. & O. Co.'s str. *Thames*.

A mail leaves to-morrow morning for Europe, by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Anadyr*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

[BY EASTERN EXTENSION E. AND A. TEL. CO.]
(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

REINFORCEMENTS TO THE BRITISH SQUADRON IN CHINA.

London, 26th January.

The British corvettes *Calliope* and *Cordelia* have been ordered to proceed immediately to the China station.

[The *Calliope* carries 16 guns, and is some 400 tons larger than the *Cordelia*, which carries only 14 guns and is the same size and has the same armament as the *Champion*—viz., 14 guns. They are both built of steel and iron cased with wood.]

THE ABYSSINIANS ATTACK MASSOWAH.

London, 27th January.

The Abyssinians have fiercely attacked Massowah, and Italian reinforcements have been despatched.

MR. GOSCHEN DEFEATED.

London, 28th January.

Mr. Goschen has been defeated for the representation in Parliament of the Exchange Ward, Liverpool.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

The Queen's speech at the opening of Parliament expressed the belief that peace will not be disturbed in South-eastern Europe, but that Ireland still causes anxiety.

WHY LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL RESIGNED.

Lord Randolph Churchill has made a statement with regard to his resigna-

tion, in which he said that Lord Salisbury wrote that the outlay was necessary for the defence of the coal-ing stations with the chances in favour of war at an early date.

GERMANY CALLING OUT HER RESERVES.

London, 31st Jan.

The German Government have resolved on calling out the reserves, partially for practice with the new repeating rifle.

AUSTRIA AND RUSSIA WATCHING FRANCE AND GERMANY.

Austria and Russia are less solicitous with regard to the Bulgarian question, and are watching France and Germany.

THE ADDRESS TO THE THRONE.

London, 1st February.

The House of Lords has voted the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, after a short debate.

In the House of Commons the debate on the same subject continues.

COLLISION, WITH GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.

The emigrant ship *Kapunda* sank after a collision on the Brazilian Coast and 300 people were drowned.

[The *Kapunda* was of 1,095 tons and the property of Messrs. Trinder, Anderson & Co. She was bound for Fremantle.]

The following telegrams appear in the *Avenir du Tonkin*, dated Saigon 10th and 14th January, but without any Paris date:—

M. GOBLET AND THE SUB-PREFECTURES.

Prime Minister Goblet intends proposing to Parliament the suppression of sixty of the least important Sub-Prefectures.

PRINCE LOUIS BONAPARTE.

Prince Louis Bonaparte has been appointed an officer of the Italian army.

M. PAUL BERT'S REMAINS.

The transport *Annamite*, with the body of M. Paul Bert on board, has arrived at Toulon. The funeral will take place at Auxerre on Saturday, the 15th January. A deputation of members of Parliament will attend.

M. FLOQUET.

M. Floquet has again been proclaimed President of the Chamber of Deputies.

The Consuls will meet on Thursday forenoon to consider the letter of the Chamber of Commerce, to which reference is made elsewhere.

The Taotai of Ningpo has put his own construction on the Opium Convention which has come into force on the 1st instant. He issued a circular a few days ago to foreign merchants informing them that they would have to pay the new *lekin* of eighty taels a picul on all the opium which had already arrived, and if it was found without Customs proof an increased *lekin* rate of H. Taels three hundred. The British Consul protested against this, with what effect we have not heard. It is manifestly an illegal attempt to squeeze on the part of the Taotai, and if what we hear from Chinese sources is true, it is his own act and has not been done under instructions from Peking. At Hankow, also, the Taotai issued a proclamation, which the Commissioner of Customs communicated to foreign

merchants, and refused to pass opium unless the receipt of the *lekin* office was produced showing that the *lekin* had been paid. Some opium having been refused clearance on this ground, the British Consul wrote to the Commissioner of Customs but the result is not yet known. There are rumours that a Chinese Custom-house is to be established near Hongkong, on the 1st of April, with the consent of the Colonial Government, similar to that which is to be opened near Macao, and if this be done there is very little doubt that a considerable part of the opium trade will be transferred to Saigon. Other measures favourable to the Chinese revenue are somewhat confidently asserted to have been agreed on by the Hongkong Government, which has been singularly silent on innovations which cannot benefit the colony, but on the contrary are likely to do it harm. Another way in which the Chinese authorities will injure the trade is by collecting the new *lekin* on the gross weight of the balls of Bengal opium, without allowing anything as tare for the covering. This we are informed will make the duty and *lekin* H. Tls. 120 a picul, in place of Tls. 110 on the picul of opium, which is the amount fixed in the Convention. The duty has hitherto been collected on the gross weight of the balls, as the difference between that and the net weight of opium did not much matter to the trade, but it is another thing now when the imposts have been so greatly raised.

Letters from Tientsin dated 15th January received on Monday say that the whole country was covered with deep snow, a sight not witnessed since 1861. The natives are in good spirits, as they say that snow, besides fertilizing the ground, kills the larvae of the locusts and grasshoppers. A traveller who arrived lately reports snow very deep in Shantung, in some places the drifts were twenty feet in depth; all wheelbarrow traffic was stopped and the Grand Canal frozen. The roads are in some places infested by robbers, but the provincial authorities have patrols of soldiers to give all possible security, but travelling is not safe unless many carts go together.

There has been a heavy fall of snow at Hankow, the snow drift being four feet deep. This is the heaviest fall known for many years.

The weather was very cold at Kinkiang three days ago. After heavy rain it froze and the branches of the trees were in some cases borne down to the ground with the weight of the frozen rain. Some of the branches were coated with ice several times their thickness.

The Chinese Times' translations from the *Shih-pao* contain this:—The flood in Shantung this autumn has caused the salt heaps to be overflowed and ruined. The merchants were obliged to petition the Governor of Shantung to grant them permission to buy salt from Chihli province for the supply of the people and the collection of the government taxes. Recently the Shantung merchants have been buying largely in this province, but the merchants of Chihli took alarm, thinking there would not be enough left for the supply of this province, and thus injury would be done to the Changlu salt business. They have petitioned the Salt Commissioner on the subject.

The habit of squeezing is so universal in China that its practice is generally winked at by the high officials, even when they are themselves sufferers by it; but as will be seen by one of the extracts from the *Peking Gazette*, printed in another column, the worm will turn sometimes. The Board of Revenue issued a sum of Tls. 500,000, the moiety of an appropriation for river works in Shantung, and when the agent of the Governor of Shantung went to get the money, the paying clerk refused to hand it over, until he received a fee variously stated at 10,000 and 50,000 taels. The Governor's agent paid the fee, which of

course came out of the Government funds, and the Governor wrote to the Vice President of the Board of Revenue, who was a connection of his, and the Board seems to have tried to hush the matter up; but three Censors have made reports on the matter to the throne, and the clerk has been sent to the Board of Punishments to be interrogated, while the Vice President of the Board of Revenue is ordered to furnish an explanation.

An open meeting of the Shanghai Young Men's Christian Association was held in their Hall, on Thursday evening, when there was a good attendance of members and friends. Archdeacon Moule, Hon. President, occupied the chair, and briefly introduced the Rev. A. J. Bamford, who delivered a lecture on Longfellow's "Evangeline." In an interesting manner the lecturer went over the events in the poem; beginning with the happy home he described the village and villagers; gave sketches of the principal characters; and enchaind the attention of the audience by the narration of the Notary's story of Justice. A notice of the principal events succeeding the betrothal feast and the Governor's proclamation, up to the old farmer's death, and burial and the firing of the village, brought the lecturer to the end of the first part of the poem. In the second part he described the wanderings of the exiles, quoted from Fr. Felician's remarks on the destructibility of love, and brought up the resumé of events to the time of Evangeline being left by Basil with the Jesuits. The lecturer in a brief review here noted the effect of these wanderings on Evangeline, and also noted the interpretation of the "dawn of another life." Going on to note the giving up the quest and the feelings of Evangeline to Gabriel, the lecturer feelingly described the recognition and death in the Almshouse. In closing he referred to the tale being a sad one if told of mortals, but a glorious one to tell of immortals. Throughout the lecture were interesting quotations from and comparisons with the "Light of Asia," Matthew Arnold's poems, and others, whilst the apt quotations from "Evangeline," and the general phraseology showed that the lecturer fully appreciated the fact of Longfellow being a true poet of nature. In the course of an interesting address Archdeacon Moule proposed in the name of the meeting a hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer. An open meeting will also be held next Thursday evening, when the Rev. H. C. Hodges will read the first of two papers on "The period of the Apocrypha."

The Renter's telegram which appeared in our columns on the 26th instant, attributing a statement as to the Bulgarian Regency to the *Note Post*, appears as follows in the Hongkong papers:—The Porte has issued a circular note declaring the Bulgarian Regency illegal, and requesting its resignation.

On and after March 1st, local correspondence received at Hongkong from Chinese Ports will not be delivered or forwarded to destination, unless prepaid by means of Hongkong Postage Stamps. This notice applies only to correspondence forwarded by steamers otherwise than in the mails. Such correspondence, if received unpaid, will be returned to the sender, being opened for that purpose if necessary.

We have received from the Presbyterian Mission Press a copy of a Chinese calendar, published by the Chinese Religions Tract Society. It is printed in black and red ink, and adorned by some venerable woodcuts representing Chinese scenes including (of course) a pagoda, a three-storied pavilion, a man ploughing, a section of the Great Wall, a Chinese school, a missionary under an official umbrella addressing a crowd of kneeling Chinese, and a large picture of one of the gates of a Chinese city. A very useful map of the world on Mercator's pro-

jection is included, and on the whole it should be a useful as well as ornamental present to a native. We note too that the compiler has avoided the mistake as to the length of the second and third moons as having been made in many calendars this year.

The appointment of Superintendent of the new Sailors' Home has been conferred on Inspector Everleigh.

M. Bihourd, successor to M. Paul Bert as Resident-General in Tongking, arrived at Hongkong by the *Océanien*.

Exchange Ward, Liverpool, for which Mr. Goachen has been defeated, returned a Gladstonian Liberal at the General Election.

Nothing has been done at the wreck of the *Wan Nien Ching* yet. Divers went out in the *Rocket* last week, but were not able to visit the wreck owing to the rough weather. The funnel of the transport has been washed away.

The Pilot Schooner *Syren* returned to Shanghai on Monday night from the wreck of the *Wan Nien Ching* for repairs, as she had her hawse-pipe torn out while riding at anchor off the wreck during heavy weather.

The old *Chingtah* is being fitted up to proceed to the wreck of the *Wan Nien Ching*.

The *Heron* returned to Shanghai last Friday afternoon, having succeeded in recovering one of the two pontoons she took in tow at the Sheipoo Roads. The Chinese, however, had stolen all they could from it, before the *Heron* got it back again.

News was received in Shanghai on Wednesday that the C. N. Co.'s steamer *Hangchow* had gone badly ashore that morning on an island called Tsing Sou, a few miles outside Amoy, and was expected to become a total loss. Captains of vessels arriving from the South have reported thick weather, which may have led to the accident. It is reported that her fore hold and engine room are full of water.

The *Nepaul* having been docked it has been found that the damage she sustained is slight, and all the repairs she requires is a patch put on one of the plates above water and a few rivets renewed in her stem.

The *Nagato Maru* and the *Meiji Maru*, two of the vessels despatched by the Japanese government to search for the *Unebi-kan*, have arrived at Hongkong via Nagasaki and Amoy, having seen nothing of the missing steamer.

The trial of the Chinese concerned in the abduction of three Annamese women has been adjourned up till the present, owing to there being no interpreter in the Annamese language to be obtained. We learn that there are several more Annamese women in Shanghai, who have been here a long time. It is possible they have learnt Chinese, so that they might be employed to interpret in the present case.

The recent gift of guns and ammunition to Shanghai by the British War Office was a very remarkable event; but it would almost seem that the authorities at home were under the impression, when making the gift, that Shanghai is a British Colony, for in the list published by the War Office of the "assistance which has been rendered, in ships and guns and military stores to the Colonies by the mother country during the last five years," Shanghai figures for £1,185; and this in a parliamentary return. It is on record that a Minister of a Crown once spoke of Hongkong in the House of Commons as a treaty port; and it is quite possible that the War Secretary, on receiving a report from the Commander-in-Chief at Hongkong of an inspection of the Shanghai Volunteers by a British officer, jumped to the conclusion that Shanghai was a colony, while it would be nobody's business to disabuse him of his notion, even if there were anybody in the War Office who knew better. Under any circumstances, it was a grateful present, and we have no reason

to grumble if it was made under a misapprehension.

Sir Henry Thurston Holland, the new Secretary of State for the Colonies, was born in 1825. He was permanent legal adviser and afterwards Assistant Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies for some years, and Financial Secretary to the Treasury and Vice-President of the Committee on Education in the last and present Salisbury administration.

We learn from the *Daily Press* that, according to the Tongking papers, the proposed Exhibition at Hanoi promises to be a great success. The original site selected having been found too small for the requirements, the Viceroy, which we presume means the Viceroy of the King of Annam, has placed his palace at the disposition of the Commissioners.

The Hongkong Government has altogether withdrawn the provisions in the bill to which we referred some few days ago, as to the fees to be charged for surveying vessels in course of construction in Hongkong.

"The blockade of Hongkong by Chinese Customs cruisers, which has existed now for nearly twenty years, will be removed on the 1st of April next." We take this announcement from the *Daily Press*, and on a superficial view we might imagine that the removal of this blockade, which has crippled the trade of Hongkong, and occupied the mind of the Chamber of Commerce there, for twenty years, would be a cause of universal rejoicing. But the *Daily Press* is inclined to think that it would be better for the merchants of Hongkong to bear the ills they have than fly to others that they know not of; for the removal of the blockade only means that the Commission, which sat in the colony last year, succeeded in devising a more practical and perfect way of preventing smuggling from the colony to the mainland. The conclusions arrived at by the Commission have been kept a secret; but the *Press* remarks that the 1st of April is not far distant, and these conclusions ought to be made known. The *Press* has good reason to believe that the new arrangement will be found satisfactory to the community; but will Hongkong be satisfied with what will be virtually the establishment of a branch of the Chinese Foreign Customs at Hongkong?

Heavy fighting has taken place between the French troops and the rebels on the frontier of Than-Hoa. The rebels were fortified, according to the *Courrier d'Haiphong*, at the village of Bami and Toumi, from which Lieut-Colonel Metzinger made an unsuccessful attempt to dislodge them. The loss sustained by the French was considerable. Lieut. Zuhner, of the 2nd Zouaves, and fifteen Zouaves were killed, and two officers were wounded. Lieut-Colonel Dudge, attacking the position from another side, lost one sergeant and four men. Strong reinforcements are being sent forward, and it is probable the position will shortly be occupied. This affair, to which too much importance must not be attached, says our Haiphong contemporary, nevertheless necessitates the formation of a strong column to purge the Day and the frontier of Than-Hoa from the pirates and rebels who occupy them.

The Governor of Saigon is disgusted with the apathy and indifference of the French cotton manufacturers who decline to make the alterations in their machinery necessary to enable them to turn out goods suitable for the Saigon and Tongking markets. At Saigon too there is a commercial museum of which French manufacturers will not avail themselves, and now a premium is to be offered to those who will use it, in the shape of free advertisements in the French and Annamite editions of the *Moniteur Officiel*. The Governor in Council has adopted another heroic measure to push French commerce with the colony; "He has decided that from the 1st January last

the Government will employ for its different requirements only articles of exclusively French production, to be proved by a certificate of origin from the Chamber of Commerce of the place of production." This ought to increase French exports to Cochin China.

Another maritime canal is now proposed, which will be a rival to that of Suez. It is to start from Antioch on the Mediterranean, go on to the Euphrates, and so by Babylon and Bagdad to the Persian Gulf. The proposed canal from the Mediterranean to the Jordan and thence by the Dead Sea to the Gulf of Akabah would seem to be more practicable, and certainly far less expensive, than this one by the Euphrates Valley. The long-talked-of Euphrates Valley Railway is more likely to be made than this Indo-European canal.

Still another maritime canal is proposed, not a very long, but a very important one. It is suggested to cut a channel through the island of Ramesaram at its narrowest point, which is some two and an eighth miles across. This will enable vessels of large draught to double the Indian peninsula without having to round Ceylon, and the saving to steamers coming from Europe and coaling at Colombo will be 332 knots to Madras, 244 to Calcutta, and 111 to Rangoon. It is not expected to cost more than a million sterling, and the traffic will be enormous, so that it is likely to meet with a ready support from English investors. According to the *Indian Pioneer*, the post of engineer to the scheme has been accepted by Sir Edward Reed, late Chief Constructor of the Navy. Some such scheme has been in the air ever since 1795, when it was first brought forward by one John Wedgborough.

A very important decision was given on appeal in the House of Lords on the 7th of December last, the appellants being the Bradford Banking Company, Limited, and the respondents Henry Briggs, Son, and Company, Limited. A Mr. Easby, a coal merchant, was a shareholder in Henry Briggs, Son and Co., one of the articles of association of this company being that the company should have a first and permanent lien and charge upon every share of every shareholder for all debts due from him. Mr. Easby owed money to the Company, and had deposited his shares with the Bradford Banking Company as security for advances, and the Bradford Bank gave the Henry Briggs Company notice that they held the shares, the latter giving the former a counter-notice that Mr. Easby was indebted to them and that under their articles of association they had a first and permanent lien on the shares. On the security of this lien the Henry Briggs Company allowed Mr. Easby to increase his debt to them after they had received the Bradford Bank's notice. Mr. Easby went into liquidation, and the Bradford Bank brought an action, claiming to have an account taken and a declaration that their claim to the shares had priority over the respondents' lien. Mr. Justice Field decided that the respondents had no right, after they had notice from the bank, to allow debts to be incurred by the shareholder to rank in priority to the debts due to the bank. The Court of Appeal reversed Mr. Justice Field's decision, on the ground that the first and permanent lien given the Company by its articles of association protected the Company even against the notice from the bank. The House of Lords has reversed the decision of the Court of Appeal, and re-established that of Mr. Justice Field, Lord Blackburn saying, "the Company, a trading one, had by its agents who managed its trading transactions such knowledge that their customer Easby had ceased to be the owner of the shares as would have made it unjust to allow him credit on the faith of that property, which had once been his, but which he had parted with before they were asked to allow him to incur the debt for

which they now seek priority. The Legislature are competent to enact that a trading company of this sort should have the right to disregard the ordinary rules of justice, and charge what they knew was one man's property with another man's debt, if only that property consisted of shares in the company, but I do not think it possible to construe section 30 (in the Companies Act 1862) as an enactment to that effect."

Not long ago one of our Singapore contemporaries gravely proposed that no foreign passenger should be allowed to land in that colony, without some guarantee to the authorities that he had a reasonable prospect of obtaining or making a livelihood; and the *Singapore Free Press* in a recent issue reverts to a former suggestion that means should be taken to prevent the importation of professed criminals, and to deport them when they are discovered. It proposes that those who bring in passengers of this kind shall be required to furnish security for a certain term that if any persons are ascertained to have been previously convicted of crime in Hongkong or China, a substantial fine shall be payable; and by this means it believes that a material check would be put to criminal immigration. Such a regulation would throw an intolerable burden on the shoulders of steamship owners, and it would be obviously impossible for them to discover the antecedents of all their passengers; or it would lead to guarantee funds, a kind of insurance companies, being formed, so that the innocent would have to pay for the guilty. The community that refuses to receive criminals would soon find it difficult to deport them, for the next stopping-place of the steamer would soon decline to be burdened with such immigrants. In time certain islands will have to be set aside as international human rubbish-heaps, or habitual criminals will have to be treated like tramps in Westchester Country, and be drowned.

Although professedly a Christian country with an established Church, Great Britain allows perfect liberty of conscience, and it goes even further than this in its Eastern possessions. Sir Arthur Gordon, the Governor of Ceylon, has just placed on the estimates two votes, one of Rs. 1,940 for the repair of the Milmitale Dagoba, and the other of Rs. 1,300 for the repair of the Abbayagira Dagoba; and he has been strongly attacked in Council "for giving undue countenance as a Christian Governor to the false religion of Buddhism." The *Times of Ceylon* objects to the votes, not on religious grounds, but because the money might be better spent on repairing roads; but if these Dagobas are historical monuments, there seems no reason why they should not be repaired with public funds to which Buddhists probably contribute more than Christians do. In this connection we see that Mr. Edwin Arnold, the author of the "Light of Asia," has just proposed that the Indian government should hand over to the Guardianship of Buddhists Monks from Ceylon the shrine of Buddha-Gya in Behar, the spot as sacred to good Buddhists as Mecca is to Mahomedans, Jerusalem to Christians, or Benares to the Hindus. It is now occupied and defaced by Shiarite Priests, who might be easily removed; and Mr. Arnold declares that the Buddhists of Ceylon of Siam, of Burma, of Thibet, Japan and China, would become more attached to British civilization by this single act, than by any other which could be devised. It would not cost the Indian Government anything, for the expense of carrying out the project would be met by subscriptions from Buddhists throughout the various countries named. Such a step might help to conciliate the Buddhists in Burma, where this religion still seems to be something more than a name, but we fear that it would have little effect in China or Japan, where Buddhism has long ceased to have any practical power.

Miscellaneous Articles.**A TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT IN INDIA.**

WHAT is called by the *Bombay Gazette* a Curious Temperance Movement has lately taken place in the Konkan, a district near Bombay. It appears that for some years the people of Panwell have been deprived of the right of drawing and selling toddy from their own trees, the exclusive privilege of drawing and selling it being given to the liquor farmer, and the tree tax having been raised from 4 annas to Rs. 16 per tree. In consequence of this, even the liquor seller has been unable to sell toddy at a reasonable rate, while in former years the toddy tree owners, after supplying their own wants, sold their surplus toddy and maintained themselves. People are now required to pay one anna per bottle for toddy, which in a district where the wages are only three annas a day, is, as one writer says, simply ridiculous. The restrictions have driven the people into the adoption of peculiar means in the hope of bringing the liquor contractors to their senses. It appears however that it is not the contractors who are to blame, but the Government, who have tried to increase their revenue from liquor, without duly considering the effect which a sudden and great increase on the duty would have upon the people. Judging from what a correspondent of our contemporary, writing on the spot, says, the liquor farmers are likely to be ruined and the revenue from the source to be less next year. The state to which the liquor farmers are reduced by the action of the Government seems to have awakened some sympathy for them in the Indian newspapers; they have not done well for some time past and have a good deal of money at stake on the contracts into which they have entered with the Abkari Department, which regulates the distillation of strong liquors. It would also appear that there has been great discontent among the people of Konkan and in Guzerat with the Abkari laws, and that for many years the people have been waiting for the Government to relieve them. Finding, however, that there was nothing done for them, and no prospect of their grievances being redressed, but, on the contrary, that things, as far as toddy was concerned, went from bad to worse, the people have at length taken the matter into their own hands, and that in a fashion which must have considerably astonished officials, whatever gladness it may have brought to those who are before all things total abstainers from intoxicating drink. The population of the districts among which the movement first began, and, it would seem, in other districts in the Bombay Presidency if not in other parts of India, have been eschewing toddy drinking and the use of strong waters, and that, not from any belief in the virtues of total abstinence, but simply as a weapon wherewith to bring the

Government to their senses and obtain the wine of the country at a reasonable price. The Government therefore has been placed in one if not in several dilemmas. The revenue will suffer, if a large number of the people continue to drink water or non-excisable liquors. The people are not only abstaining, but it would seem that they have been preaching the virtues of total abstinence, and have employed such physical modes of persuasion as in one instance brought some of the headmen into the Magistrate's court. It is quite possible that a movement begun merely as a protest against what the people consider unfair and oppressive taxation on a well loved refreshment, may become a crusade against the use of intoxicating liquors altogether. More unlikely things than that have happened, but, whether or not that is the result, the movement is a curious one. For it appears that the people in the Konkan have an inherited taste for strong liquor and plenty of it, and indeed some of their castes have had from old times a serious determination towards drunkenness. The men and women in the villages have been in the habit of getting drunk after sunset, and in some places it was said thirty years ago that there was scarcely a sober man to be found in a village after eight o'clock at night. The most bibulous people in Guzerat are abstaining, and, among the aboriginal tribes, the movement is said to have gained a footing among folk who might have been considered impermeable by any sort of temperance doctrine. Among those of whom it was said that they would drink until they had only one rag left, and then would sell that rag that they might drink more, the following incident occurred in December:—In a village near the Damaun territory the strange spectacle was witnessed of a thousand or more people belonging to the aboriginal tribes in public meeting assembled, listening to the solicitations of half-a-dozen of their number who urged them, in a way that carried conviction, not to buy liquor. The Indian Government will, should this movement continue, be able to console themselves for the loss of revenue by the reflection that the new total abstainers are after all merely carrying out their own paternal policy, often announced, of repressing drunkenness, as far as that could be done by levying high duties on liquor. Somewhat inconsistently they do not appear to have viewed the movement in that light, for they took proceedings against Agria who enacted that any of their caste fellows who bought liquor should be subjected to penalties for so doing.

THE CANADIAN FISHERIES QUESTION.

THERE is a chapter in the second volume of Mr. Blaine's "Twenty years of Congress" which gives an account of the fishery disputes between England and the United States from the point of view of the writer. It requires to be

taken with a good deal of salt, like every thing from the pen or lips of Mr. Blaine, but we have no reason to doubt that it gives the view held by a number of his countrymen of their rights in this matter, and is therefore worth considering. When the independence of the Colonies was recognised in 1782, the provisions in regard to two subjects were held by both Governments to be final and perpetual, one being the territory conceded to the United States and the other the right to the fisheries. And in the definite treaty of 1783 it was provided that the privilege which inhabitants of the United States had enjoyed, when British subjects, of using "all the British fisheries in what is now known as the Dominion of Canada and the island of Newfoundland" should be continued to them. But after the war of 1812 the British negotiators claimed that the war had put an end to all existing treaties, and that consequently the fishery rights of the United States had ceased. The direct purpose of this, Mr. Blaine says, was obvious. The treaty of 1782 declared that "the navigation of the Mississippi river from its source to the ocean shall forever remain free and open to the subjects of Great Britain and to the citizens of the United States," but subsequent surveys of the course of the Mississippi and the purchase of Louisiana had "given our Government the control of the mouth of the river. Hence the privilege of navigating the Mississippi—so earnestly desired by the British Government—could not be insisted on, since the river from its source to the sea was wholly within the territory of the United States." Mr. Blaine considers that the claim of Great Britain to the free navigation of the Mississippi was untenable, but he holds that the rights of the United States to share in the British fisheries continued to exist and in this part of his chapter he is more a special pleader than an historical writer. Clearly, if the Treaty of 1782 gave rights to both Governments, these rights did not cease in one case, because the United States had acquired in one way and another more territory bordering on the Mississippi than she had when the treaty was made. In 1818 another treaty concerning the fisheries was concluded in London, by which, Mr. Blaine says, the fishing rights of the United States were seriously and needlessly diminished. Yet at that time the State Department was under the charge of Mr. John Quincy Adams, a gentleman not the least likely to give away anything his country could justly retain, and the United States negotiators in London were, according to Mr. Blaine, men of established reputation for diplomatic ability and patriotic zeal. These gentlemen "renounced forever"—the italics are Mr. Blaine's, who is strong in that form of argument—any liberty heretofore enjoyed or claimed by the inhabitants thereof to take, dry, or cure fish on or within three marine miles of any

of the coasts, bays, creeks, or harbours of His Britannic Majesty's dominions in America, not included within the limits so described. The treaty limited the rights of the United States to take fish on the Newfoundland and Labrador coasts without prejudice to the rights of the Hudson Bay Company, and granted them permission to cure and dry fish on parts of the coasts of Newfoundland and Labrador, so long as these remained unsettled, and it was for this privilege that the renunciation referred to was offered by the United States commissioners to the British plenipotentiaries, "who did not desire it."

The three mile limit in the agreement of 1818 was the cause of much of the trouble in this question since that date. In 1818 the mackerel fisheries within three miles of the coast were unimportant; since then they "have grown into large proportions." Mr. Blaine plaintively says that the treaty considered only the cod fisheries, and that "even from that point of view we paid an enormous price for the poor privilege of drying fish on the Newfoundland coast by abandoning the right of mackerel fishing within three marine miles of all the other coasts of His Britannic Majesty's dominions in America." Great difficulty was found in determining the three mile line. American fishing-vessels were vexatiously seized and the British courts showed "reckless injustice." Therefore in 1854 Lord Elgin, then Governor General of Canada, and Mr. Marcy, Secretary of State, negotiated what is known as the Reciprocity Treaty. But here, again, "the wary diplomatists of England, with sarcasm scarcely concealed," had so phrased the opening clause of the Reciprocity Treaty as to make its provisions only "additional to the liberty secured to the United States fishermen by the Convention of 1818." This treaty gave the United States fishermen the right to take all kinds of fish—shell-fish excepted—on the coast, bays, harbours and creeks of Canada, &c., without being restricted to any distance from the shore and to land, dry and cure. British fishermen received the reciprocal right of fishing on the American coast on similar terms. Canada also got reciprocity of trade in some articles. This treaty was terminated in 1866 on notice given by the United States in the previous year, and the fishery laws reverted to the provisions of the treaty of 1818. Negotiations followed; some Canadian goods were admitted into the United States free of duty and a Commission was agreed on to determine how much England should receive for the fishery rights she allowed Americans to participate in. The Commission was to consist of three members, one appointed by His Majesty, one by the President of the United States, and the third by the Queen and the President, jointly. A great deal of negotiation took place about the appointment of the third

Commissioner. The Acting Secretary of State suggested, at the instance of the President, a number of persons each of whom were qualified for the position, and stated that the names of all the Ministers had been omitted whose Government, by their peculiar connection with Great Britain would probably esteem themselves disqualified for the office. The Belgian Minister was one of those, and had been specially taken exception to by Mr. Fish, but Lord Granville wished him to be the third Commissioner and after much trouble M. Delfosse was appointed. The award was that the United States should pay \$5,500,000 for twelve years use of the inland fisheries, which Mr. Blaine contends "were ours absolutely by the treaty of 1782." Some duties were also remitted for the twelve years, which Mr. Blaine computes as worth \$4,200,000, for that period. Mr. Blaine considers the price paid by the United States for the right of curing and drying exorbitant, and, following Mr. Fish and Mr. Evarts, endeavours to show that Canada received too high a money equivalent. The statistics given may bear out that view; but Mr. Blaine and his distinguished predecessors leave out of sight the fact that if American fisherman had not the right of landing and curing fish on British territory their fisheries would be altogether or nearly valueless. When the award was made in favour of Great Britain in 1877 and Mr. Evarts put forward a claim to have it lessened, founded on mercantile calculations, Lord Salisbury declined to follow him into the details of his argument. His Lordship admitted, "with diplomatic courtesy, that Mr. Evarts reasoning was powerful, but still in his judgment "capable of refutation." He did not attempt to refute it, but claimed the award which the commissioners had given to England. Mr. Blaine ungraciously says that his Lordship should have said that the Belgian diplomatist who was third Commissioner gave the five and a half millions to England. This award was made in 1871, and produced "profound astonishment throughout the United States, accompanied by no small degree of indignation." But the former feeling will be lessened in those who read Mr. Blaine's book which leaves the impression that on our mind the United States diplomatists have been weak on this question since 1818; which certainly throws a new and unexpected light on them. Probably Mr. Blaine's estimate of them is as near the truth as his imputation of reckless injustice to British Courts. The United States abrogated this treaty in 1885, after due notice, and the treaty of 1818 became again the law, and within a year trouble arose between the Canadians and Americans. The President said, on the Fishery Question, in his last message. "Since the date of the negotiations in 1818 new and vast interests had been brought into existence. New modes of inter-

course between the respective countries had been invented and multiplied. The methods of conducting the fisheries had been wholly changed, and all that was necessarily entitled to a candid and careful consideration in the adjustment of terms and the conditions of intercourse and commerce between the States and their neighbours along a frontier of over 3,500 miles. "Whilst," said the President, "I am unfeignedly desirous that such relations should exist between us and the inhabitants of Canada, yet the action of their officials during the past season towards our fishermen has been such as to seriously threaten their continuance. Negotiations are still pending, with a reasonable hope that before the close of the present Session of Congress an announcement may be made that an acceptable conclusion has been reached." That is no doubt the spirit in which fairminded Englishmen and Americans will approach this subject.

QUARANTINE AND SHANGHAI.

THERE has never been, so far as we know, any attempt made to establish a system of quarantine in Shanghai. And wisely so, for few delusions have done more mischief than the once widespread belief that artificial obstacles will prevent the invasion of an advancing wave of epidemic disease. Sanitary cordons are effective only in creating panic and paralysing trade. They are necessarily inefficient on a continent, and experience has shown that they are equally useless even when drawn round islands. They represent the exaggeration of a principle good and fruitful in itself, and like all exaggerations they fail when brought to any practical test. They give the impression that protection can come from outside, and suggest the needlessness of those internal measures in which alone safety can be found. Clearly, it is not only advisable but necessary to keep out the intruding germs so far as may be, but this must be accomplished by rendering the soil unpropitious to them, by examining arrivals from infected localities, and by the reasonable treatment of incoming persons and things that colourably may be suspected of being poison-carriers. This system has for several years been in operation at the English coast ports, and so far the results have been admirable. Thus, during the half-year ended 30th June, 1886, 12,143 vessels of all classes were examined in London, and of these, 872 had to be disinfected under official supervision. Something of the same kind was carried out for several years in Shanghai, in the case of foreign vessels arriving from infected places, but for one reason or another the practice has been allowed to fall into oblivion. While it was followed there was, we believe, no instance of disease spreading from an imported centre of infection, and, on the other hand it is equally true that since inspection of suspected vessels

has been abandoned no instance of mischief arising from this neglect has been publicly announced. There are certain precautions, however, that it is so obviously prudent to take, apart from actual experience, that we may well be astonished at the want of any means for enforcing them. That they are efficient is amply proved by the result attained in England, which in the case of cholera is briefly this, that although the Continent of Europe has suffered severely from the disease during the last four seasons, but very few cases were imported into England, and all these were satisfactorily dealt with by the sanitary authorities concerned.

The last Report of the Port of London Sanitary Committee, presented on the 16th September 1886, brings a serious indictment against Shanghai. After referring to the Board of Trade regulation which provides for the purification or destruction of the effects of seamen known to have been within the range of cholera or other infectious disease, it cites and tabulates 18 cases occurring in the first half of last year, wherein it was discovered that this necessary precaution was neglected, and of these, four were supplied by Shanghai. It is not very easy to say upon whom the burden should fall of providing the appliances and supervision needed for the compulsory purification of ships, cargo and personal effects suspected of being contagion-carriers. There is so much division of jurisdiction in this place, and so little power of initiative, that an extraordinary amount of circumlocution has to be gone through before united action can be taken in any matter affecting the public at large, especially when the shipping is to be involved. The Municipal Councils provide for the performance of a certain amount of sanitary work, limited however to the shore. They cannot assume any effective control over the shipping, nor can they conveniently follow cases of infectious disease landed, and supervise the disposal of the effects accompanying them. The Customs is an institution for collecting revenue, and cannot be expected to exercise the functions of a Board of Health. The powers even of its Harbour department are minimal in respect of the enforcement of sanitary precautions. The local native government is indifferent and would neither encourage nor discourage the framing and carrying out of regulations which should apply to foreigners only. It would almost certainly turn a deaf ear to any suggestion of rules that might limit the freedom of the junk traffic and subject Chinese craft to inspection with its implied inconvenience. It would also probably refuse to enforce or sanction regulations for the isolation of natives arriving as passengers in foreign vessels from infected ports. Moreover, in addition to every other difficulty there is the radical one of the absence of any fund that could be drawn upon for such purposes as we indicate. Nor does it

appear possible to raise any fund locally except by some form of taxation which would be opposed at every stage, and in any case would probably never be authorised by the ministers. But as it is discreditable to us as a community to maintain this indifferent attitude in the face of dangers that may at any moment arise, some attempt ought to be made to move the Court of Consuls to take the subject into consideration. Though no immediate action should follow, it would be a distinct gain were the importance of the question fully understood, its limits fixed, and its difficulties formulated. The first step would be taken towards a solution, for a mere statement of difficulties often suggests a skeleton plan for meeting them.

THE NEW LEKIN ON OPIUM.—I.

THE Commissioner of Customs is issuing to-day a notification giving the regulations adopted for the carrying into effect of the Additional Article to the Chefoo Convention, which comes into force to-morrow. The most important one, against which the British Consul-General will of course make a vigorous protest, is No. 7. In anticipation of the Opium Articles coming into force, a large quantity of opium has been landed into godowns during the last fortnight, having paid only the Tariff Import Duty of Tls. 30 per picul, the owners expecting thus to escape the new *lekin* of Tls. 80 per picul. The new regulation requires all this opium to pay the new *lekin*, such payment being allowed to be made at any time before the 31st July. If meanwhile, between the 1st of February and 31st of July, any of this opium is removed from godown, or is found in circulation, not having paid the new *lekin*, a special *lekin* of Tls. 300 a picul—which is really an exorbitant fine—will be exacted on it; after the 31st of July it will be confiscated. The making of this regulation, quietly assumes that the vexed question as to the right of the Chinese to levy *lekin* in the Settlements has been settled in favour of the Chinese. If the Commissioner of Customs had said that any opium found crossing the limits of the Settlements not having paid *lekin*, would be fined or confiscated, he would have been within his rights; but he is distinctly exceeding those rights when he demands *lekin* on opium in a foreign godown within the limits of the Settlements. It is difficult to understand what can be Sir Robert Hart's object—for of course the circular emanates from Peking—in raising this question in such an offensive shape. We are not greatly concerned whether the opium consumed in the settlements pays *lekin* or not; but this opium now in godown has paid the tariff import duty, and the foreign customs should have no further concern with it. The new Article does not come into force until the 1st of February, and it cannot properly be retrospective, and attach to opium landed on or before the 31st of January; and it is an arbitrary and

unjustifiable not to try and stretch it as Mr. Hobson is doing. Once the opium is outside the settlement, the *lekin* collectors can do what they like with it, but neither they nor the Customs authorities have power to exact *lekin* on it, or to prevent its being removed or put into circulation, in the settlement; and we have no doubt that this is the view that Mr. Hughes has taken of the matter—we know that it is the view adopted by Mr. Cooper in Ningpo—and we trust that he will be firm in upholding this view; and will not allow a long-vexed question to be settled in this imperious manner by the *ipse dixit* of the Commissioner of Customs.—N. C. D. N., 31st Jan.

II.

THE reported acquiescence of Sir John Walsham in the action of the Customs, in requiring the new *lekin* to be paid on the opium already landed appears to us incomprehensible. For it is believed that the British Minister has adopted the Customs' view or interpretation of the Convention. At all events, we do not hear that he has instructed the Consul-General to protest, and consequently the trade in opium will be completely disorganized both here and in India. Indeed, we are informed that when advices were received in India saying that there was a mere possibility of the *lekin* being claimed, as the Customs claim it, the price fell considerably. We mention this to show the injury which weakness or inaction on the part of Sir John Walsham may inflict upon trade. Lord Salisbury, and his successor Lord Rosebery, and the India authorities all expected that the foreign opium trade in China would suffer to some extent from the working of the new *lekin* arrangements. But there is no use in tamely accepting the interpretation which the Customs have placed on the Additional Article, and thereby making things worse than they ought to be. Fairly read the Additional Article does not authorise any retrospective collection of *lekin*, indeed the last part of 2nd Clause puts the claim of the Customs out of court. The clause says:—"It is agreed that foreign opium, when imported into China, shall be taken cognizance of by the Imperial Maritime Customs, and shall be deposited in bond, either in warehouse or receiving hulks which shall have been approved of by the Customs, and it shall not be removed thence until there shall have been paid to the Customs the Tariff duty of 30 taels per chest of 100 catties, and also a sum not exceeding 80 taels per like chest as *lekin*." The opium which has been landed having been removed from the hulks, of course after paying all the duty which its foreign owners were bound by Treaty to pay before the Additional Article of the Chefoo Convention came into force, it appears to us that the Customs have not the shadow of a right on their side. The Commissioner of Customs does not

of course say so in his Notification, but he makes the demand for the new *lekin* on the strength of the old and successfully disputed claim by the Chinese of the right to levy *lekin* within the foreign Settlements. That Lord Salisbury and the Marquis T'eng did not contemplate the recognition of the right of collecting *lekin* here, or in any of the Concessions at the Treaty Ports, is evident from the language of the 1st Clause of the Additional Article, which is:—

1.—As regards the arrangements above referred to and proposed in clauses 1 and 2 of Section III. of the Chefoo Agreement, it is agreed that they shall be reserved for further consideration between the two Governments.

Clause 2 says that in lieu of the arrangement respecting opium proposed in clause 3 of Section III. of the Chefoo convention the agreement quoted above shall be substituted. And the portion of the Clause of the Chefoo Convention, relating to opium, the consideration of which was postponed, is as follows:—

1.—With reference to the area within which, according to the treaties in force, *lekin* ought not to be collected on foreign goods at the open ports, Sir Thomas Wade agrees to move his Government to allow the ground rented by foreigners (the so-called Concessions) at the different ports, to be regarded as the area of exemption from *lekin*.

The rest of the Clause has already been fulfilled, and the 2nd Clause refers to definition of the area of the Foreign Settlements. It is evident from these extracts that neither Lord Salisbury nor the Marquis T'eng contemplated levying the new *lekin* on opium within the foreign Settlements. They left matters, in respect of *lekin* within the Settlements, as they stood under the Treaty of Tientsin, in which the total duty leviable on opium is stated at Ts. 30. If Sir John Walsham sanctions, either by silence or approval, the claim which the Customs now put forward, he will have destroyed one of the Treaty rights of his countrymen. He should see that if the Customs are allowed to have their own way in this instance, a precedent will have been created, by which they will be able to make regulations with regard to other articles to suit the Chinese Government. It is their attempt to go beyond treaties to which we now object.

The British and the other foreign Ministers should bear in mind that what is now being done in the *lekin* on opium may be done in a short time to any other import, if this action of the Customs is permitted. The Committee of the Chamber of Commerce perceives the danger, if Sir John Walsham and the Consul-General fail to do so; they have addressed the Consuls through the *Doyen*, calling their attention to paragraph 7 of the Customs Notification and asking whether by this paragraph it is meant that the Custom can levy or confiscate opium in foreign hands, which had been properly and lawfully entered and landed before the 1st February, because it was being moved about the Settlements; and

if so, whether the Regulation had been issued under the sanction of the Ministers of the Treaty Powers. If the present action of the Customs is assented to, it will be equally competent for the Inspector-General, should the tariff be at any time raised or altered in other merchandise, to seize such merchandise as had been landed and stored in foreign godowns before the new tariff or duty came into force. It will be, in fact, recognising in Sir Robert Hart a new Power, responsible only to those who will not be too curious about the means he uses to increase the revenue. The danger of this will be seen by the Ministers of France, Germany and America, whose nationals are greatly interested in the China trade, and they will doubtless ask themselves whether it was for this that their Governments put aside their well-known objections to the Convention—objections that delayed for many months its being brought into operation—for this, that the Customs should place themselves above treaties. What is now being attempted, and which probably will be carried into effect if the British Minister remains inert, or blind to the true consequences to all foreign trade of allowing the Customs to enforce their exactions, will be extended to other articles of trade, probably as soon as the Customs and mandarins think they can do so without their conduct attracting much attention—that is when their present action shall have passed out of people's minds. And they will be no respecters of particular nations.

THE P. & O. COMPANY.

We discussed some days ago the annual report of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, and we have now before us the speech of the Chairman, Mr. Thomas Sutherland, at the Company's annual meeting. Mr. Sutherland's speech is distinguished by the clearness with which the position of the Company and its affairs are laid before the shareholders. On this occasion his task was not an ungrateful one. He could safely declare that the financial condition of the Company was an excellent one, the fleet sufficient and in good order, and the results of the year's working such that a reasonable dividend could be paid; his chief labour being to reconcile the shareholders to satisfaction with the new mail contract, on which they are to receive £95,000 a year, or nearly a million sterling altogether, less than in the previous decade. First, he was able to tell them that in the course of next year their fleet would amount to the very large tonnage of 200,000 tons; and to remind them that whereas when the famous *Himalaya* was built she was considered too large for their service, and promptly disposed of to the Admiralty, they were now building four steamers for the Australian trade, each almost twice the size of the *Himalaya*. In the six years of the expiring mail contract, they had built 82,000 tons of shipping, at a cost of over 2½ millions, and had expended over half a million in improvements on their older vessels. In the same period they had sold 33,000 tons, so that the net gain to the fleet during the six years had been about 50,000 tons. But they had in no way strained their resources; they could easily, if necessary, have built twice as much as they actually had done; but their policy had always been a conservative

one; they had "strictly confined themselves to their own proper and legitimate work, and had never attempted to attack any other interest or line." Mr. Sutherland avoided the question whether the P. & O. Co.'s participation in the Conference, ring is or is not an attack on the outside ship-owners. The ideal they put before themselves was to convert their branch lines as soon as possible into lines of direct and through communication without transshipments; a task which they have not yet completed. There is no question that in China, for instance, many passengers take the French in preference to the English mail, because by the latter it is generally necessary to change steamers in Ceylon. Then Mr. Sutherland assured his hearers that he was perfectly confident that the new mail contract—even at a reduction of £95,000 a year—would be a remunerative one. Twelve years ago the Company was paid £500,000 a year for the same service that it was now going to perform for £265,000 a year; but at that time their coal cost them, laid down at their stations in the East, an average of 45s. a ton, while the cost now is not much more than half that amount. They had also got rid of the obligation to transport the mails through Egypt, and he hoped they had finally done with the constant trouble caused them by the Egyptian Quarantine Board. In this permission to send all their steamers thorough the Suez Canal, there was a considerable saving in time, and consequently of expense, to the Company. We notice that Mr. Sutherland found it impossible to avoid altogether that bugbear of all institutions connected with the East, loss in exchange. The Company lost £18,000 in the past year by the fall in silver, chiefly in the passenger traffic, for it was impossible to raise the fares as silver fell; there is too much competition to allow steamer companies to follow the example of the telegraphs, and put on ten per cent. when exchange gets too low. In this part of his speech Mr. Sutherland seems to have been rather the member of Council of the Bi-metallic League than the business-like Chairman of the Company which has benefited more than all others by the increase in homeward freights from low exchanges. Mr. Sutherland then gave some interesting statistics. The company landed and shipped annually in the port of London some 450,000 tons of cargo; and a difference of 1s. 4d. a ton on that quantity of cargo would amount to more than one per cent of dividend. As to rates of freight, he told the shareholders that while the average rate at Bombay in 1880 was 44s. 9d., it was from 17s. to 20s. last year; and while in Calcutta in 1880 the rates for light and dead weight were 59s. 9d. and 48s. 1d. respectively, they were in 1886 37s. 3d. and 22s. 3d. This is the result of excessive competition, and he stated his conviction that not a single line of steamers trading between England and India had, if its accounts were fairly made up, paid any profit in 1886: which, however, has been by no means a bad state of things for the Indian producer. The Australian mail contract was not yet settled, but he hoped that there the negotiations would be brought to a satisfactory issue. On the whole he was certainly justified in saying that the Company had done fairly well in the seven years of the expiring mail contract, in which, besides placing aside large reserves, they had paid an average dividend of seven per cent.

THE FRENCH MAIL-PAPERS.

In "The German View of the Situation" the *Spectator* says:—

The debate in the German Parliament on the renewal of the Military Septennate leaves on our minds the impression that the German Government, which is the best informed in Europe, not only expects a European war, but is honestly alarmed by the anticipation.

It is all very well to say that Prince Bismarck wanted his Bill, and therefore instructed all official speakers to make the most of every danger; but that assertion only partially meets the facts of the situation. That the German Government wished the Septennate to be continued is true, for that provision releases them from an annual Parliamentary discussion which they think most dangerous; but they could not have wished either for the antedating of the Bill, or for the additional force which will be raised under it. They have ample strength for anything but a war with a coalition, they can depend upon their Austrian allies, and they are harassed and alarmed by the financial difficulties which, as they frankly avow, such exaggerated armaments entail. The Hohenzollerns are no friends either of deficits or of waste. They would gladly have gone on as they were, and only demand fresh strength because of the increased armaments both of France and Russia. The military department in Germany is very independent even of the Chancellor, and its two chiefs were ominously pessimistic. The Minister of War, General Bismarck von Schellendorf, who succeeded General von Roon, intimated almost in so many words that although he did not expect war at once—"for in that case, gentlemen, I should not be asking for a Bill, but for a decree of mobilisation"—he saw no ground for believing that peace would be maintained; while his great comrade, Count von Moltke, was almost fatalistic in his expectation of war.

and, further on, the writer remarks:—

It has been noticed, especially in France, that the German soldiers did not talk of a coalition, as Prince Bismarck did when the Military Septennate was first voted, but dwelt almost exclusively upon the armaments of France. Russia was mentioned, but there was evidently a desire not to be explicit about the danger from the East, which the German people, who understand the vastness of Russia, dread the more keenly of the two. It is probable that this reticence was in part dictated by a desire not to offend the *amour propre* of the Czar, who is hesitating under the pressure of two parties, and to spare the feelings of the aged Emperor, who abhors the notion of a Russian war; but it was also dictated by the permanent German view of the situation. That view, if we interpret it rightly, is that the brunt of a Russian attack would at first be borne by Austria, Germany having no interest in the Balkans, but that the consequent French attack, that "going off of the Chassepôts" of which the Chancellor spoke, would be directed against Germany.

A long article on the submarine steel vessel called the *Peacemaker*, under the appropriate title of a "mechanical swordfish" should be interesting to those who are following the developments of submarine attacking craft. The *Spectator* concludes by saying that it is an odd little item in the account of so terrible a vessel as the *Peacemaker*, that the inventor thinks he has incidentally solved the problem of sickness on short voyages. "His vessel," he thinks "could run as a passenger-boat from Dover to Calais in the calm water beneath the surface waves and the passengers would sit unharassed by qualms just as they do now when passing through a long tunnel." But if there is any prospect of this, the worthy ladies and gentlemen who were so frightened by the proposal of a channel tunnel will be in a much worse way, when a fleet of *Peacemaker* transports may carry over an army of invaders to the shore of Dover.—The *St. James's* has also an article on submarine war-boats.

The article on Prince Alexander of Battenberg is worth reading. "The Humours of Cork" is of the same sort of papers as those on "the Humours of Kerry," which we lately made extracts from, and has several characteristic anecdotes. Here are two:—

The doctor, by way of consoling the family, said,—“Well, it's a fine thing for a man to be allowed to die in his bad these times!”

A labourer having asked his employer for a glass of whisky, it was given to him; but the master said,—“Remember, every glass you take is a nail in your coffin, Corney.” “Well,

your honour,” said Corney, “maybe as ye have the hammer in yer hand, you would drive another.”

The Literary Supplement opens with a review of *Le Théâtre des Chinois*, by General Tchong Ki-Tong, which will, no doubt, be read by many students of Chinese literature and drama.

This is rather a commonplace number of the *Saturday*; the political articles are not striking or pungent. But at the present time this sketch of French politicians is interesting:—

M. de Freycinet having gone under for the second time in his career, they have been hard at work in Paris in hunting about for somebody who could be forced to come in and voluntarily take his place. At first they wanted M. de Freycinet to come back. The Radicals and Conservatives both assured him that the unpleasant affair of last Friday was a mere accident, and that, puppet for puppet, they preferred him to anybody else. This polite offer was refused. Then Right, Left, United Left, Pure Left, and the President of the Republic looked about for another Aunt Sally. According to precedent, they should have secured M. Floquet. He is, as M. Brisson was, President of one of the Chambers, and is supposed to be playing for a great place according to that astonishing game which consists in sitting perfectly still and doing nothing, because if you do anything you are sure to make a fool of yourself and suffer for it. It is an immense compliment to M. Clémenceau, really by far the most influential man in the Chamber, that nobody thought of him. He is credited with meaning what he says to a quite dangerous extent. Accordingly he is left to make place impossible for everybody else by a judicious use of his trusty Radicals. With M. Floquet it was different. It is true that he has committed himself to support Bills for the abolition of the Senate, and schemes for the appointment of judges by popular election. But all that did not matter, so sure was everybody that once in office M. Floquet would follow the footsteps of M. Brisson into obscurity. Unfortunately, or fortunately, M. Floquet had done a much more serious thing than bait his electoral hook with promises to disorganise the Constitution, finances, and judicial administration of France. He was once when in dire want of an advertisement so rash as to be very rude to the Czar Alexander II. in Paris. Less bold than M. Cardinal in the antechamber of the Pope, he stood up and was safely impudent to the tyrant. Now his present Czarish Majesty, whose love and tender care for the memory of his father is notorious and vouched for by “O. K.,” has a very ticklish temper. Political affairs being where they are, M. Floquet was impossible. So M. Goblet was called in, and has, not without reluctance, undertaken to form a Cabinet.

In addition to this we find the *Times* pointing out that M. Goblet is the eighth premier the French Republicans have had in ten years, and the *Daily News'* correspondent in Paris saying that “M. Flourens, the new Minister for Foreign Affairs, being a son-in-law of the late M. Michel Chevalier, and the brother of M. Gustave Flourens, of Cretan and Communist celebrity, is regarded by the Monarchists as Bonapartist fish and Radical flesh. The *Gaulois* calls on every Royalist in the Chamber to vote against him. The Radicals treat his nomination as a concession to M. Raoul Duval, who belongs to the Michel Chevalier school of Free Trade and Liberal Imperialists. To-day, I learned from the Director-General of Public Instruction that M. Flourens, who was for some time under him, is an *homme fort distingué* by which he meant a man of superior intellect, acquirements, and gentlemanly address.

Returning to the *Saturday*, we find an article on the “Spook” which amplifies the information about those airy nothings given in the dictionaries, and those who are interested in apparitions will doubtless find the paper expand the limits of their knowledge. A very good piece of writing is “A Question for Editors,” in which the London papers which have ministered to

the unclean-minded, who have bought up the accounts of such trials on the Dilke and Campbell by the million are severely lectured. The *Saturday* “finds the genesis of the pest in the scandalous faint heartedness of the powers that be, as represented by the combination of the permanent officials of the Metropolitan Police with Lord Salisbury's first administration in general, and Lord Cross in particular, when a notorious person was enabled to prove by experiment that it was possible for a widely-read journal to be prostituted to the uses of Holywell Street with practical impunity.” This notorious person has been marking down the London dailies who have been publishing full accounts of the last scandalous trial, and in the number of the *Pall Mall Gazette* for the 16th December there is given an edifying diagram showing an *Evening Standard*, as it appeared with one column of general news and the remainder abandoned to the Campbell case. But, after all, is not Truth right in this paragraph:—

I have been very much pleased to see so many letters from “Paterfamilias,” and “An Englishwoman,” and “Rector” and “Senex” about the shocking reports of the Colin Campbell divorce case which are said to have appeared in all the respectable papers. I am very fond of virtue, especially in “Paterfamilias” and “An Englishwoman”; but what puzzles me is this—how did these excellent people find out that these reports were so very nasty as they say?

With a recommendation to read “Job's Comforters (New Style)” we finish with this week's *Saturday*.

The *Pall Mall*, as far as we have seen, is the only paper that had an inkling of there being something wrong within the Cabinet, although the resignation of Lord Randolph Churchill was only six or seven days ahead. There is a lot of miscellaneous reading in this number of this Budget, and the same is to be said of the *St. James's*. The papers in the latter on “Self-Righting Lifeboats” and “Guinea Gold” are very appropriate, the former to the deplorable loss of two boats off Southport, and the latter to those who put their trust in the prospectuses of the projectors of mining companies.

The *Athenæum*, and almost all papers by this mail, review the correspondence of the late Mr. Abraham Hayward, which seems on the whole to be a disappointing book. The *Literary Gossip* intimates that a memoir of Sir Peter Scratchley—late High Commissioner of New Guinea,—is in preparation; that Mr. Ernest Coleridge's “Life of Samuel Taylor Coleridge,” is likely to be published this year; also that Mr. William Stebbing's “Verdicts of History Reviewed” is in the press. We understand that, says the writer, Messrs. Chapman & Hall have arranged for the issue of what is hoped will be a really satisfactory edition of “The Pickwick Papers.” The new edition will probably be published on the day of the Queen's accession, and it will contain facsimiles of all the original drawings, including some never yet published. Messrs. Macmillan & Co. will issue immediately a new volume of addresses by Mr. Lowell, containing the well-known address on democracy delivered at the Midland Institute, and others on Dean Stanley, Garfield, Fielding, Coleridge, Wordsworth, and Don Quixote. The eminent Chinese scholar Prof. James Legge is going to bring out a metrical translation of the Psalms according to the Hebrew text.

REVIEW.

The Dragon, Insigne and Denon, by Rev. HAMPDEN C. DU BOIS, fourteen years a Missionary at Soochow. New York, A. C. Armstrong & Sons.

MANY are the books that have been written about China and the Chinese; but the subject is still very far from being exhausted. In fact there exists a greater need than ever

for specific information respecting many matters about which we are comparatively ignorant, but which form the very life and soul of the native among whom we dwell. It is noticeable and we may say, almost proverbial, that quite a large percentage of the works of this sort that have hitherto appeared have been written by persons whose period of residence in the country and opportunities of observation have been of a very limited description. It is the globe-trotter or the new-comer fresh from home and full of unsatisfied curiosity who notes down in minute detail his first impressions of the various objects of interest that come before his notice. What attracts his attention is the very sort of thing likely to interest persons who have never been to China; and hence our most popular descriptions of the Celestial Empire have some such mere novices as their Author. The old resident as a rule settles down and accommodates himself to his environment, so that he ceases to be impressed with the salient peculiarities either of the country or the people. If he writes at all, his lucubrations partake largely of the dry-as-dust character. He cannot realize that the little affairs of every-day life that go on around him are really worthy of record for the information of persons who have never left their native lands, or even for transient residents in the Far East.

It was therefore with no small misgivings that we opened the covers of a new and attractive-looking book written by one who styles himself on the title page "Fourteen years a missionary at Soochow." And it is with no little surprise and satisfaction that we find the work written throughout with much of the simplicity and freshness of a new-comer. The style is generally so bright and cheery—we had almost said racy,—and the volume abounds with so much that is carefully selected and told in an interesting manner that we prophesy for it a wide acceptance and a fair share of appreciation among the book-devouring public, both in the author's native land and wherever the English language is known. Many writers on Chinese matters attempt to crowd too many subjects and too much information into one book. Mr. Du Bose, however, confines himself to the "Three Religions of China," giving a comprehensive and very readable sketch of Confucianism, Buddhism and Taoism,—their origin, growth, characteristics, and the history of their founders—all within the limits of 468 pages of good bold type. As a book calculated to profit and amuse the general reader and to serve for a ready reference on matters connected with religion in China, this volume will undoubtedly prove of much advantage. The materials have partly been dug out of the most valuable mines of information already available in foreign publications, and partly consist of original matter obtained by the writer during his long years of direct personal intercourse with the natives. The writings of Edkins, Eitel, Beale and Legge are acknowledged as the principal sources that have been placed in requisition; but a not very careful inspection of the book leads us to the conviction that Williams and Doolittle are not altogether unknown to the author and that their names are therefore equally well deserving of mention. The whole material however is skilfully combined, and carefully classified and arranged in short paragraphs or sections each with its suitable heading—a great convenience to the cursory reader. We do not hesitate to call this the best popular description of the three great religions of China that we have yet seen.

But "all is not gold that glitters"; and these elegant covers with their artistic gilt embellishment contain, portions which are not entirely free from alloy, even if not actually erroneous in point of fact. In the first place the name of the book "The Dragon, Image and Demon" strikes us as being altogether too fanciful and ab-

surd. We are told in the preface that:—"The Dragon is the emblem of China and its State Church; the Image is a synonym for the Indian religion—it matters little the size, colour or name of the image; and the term Demon is Taoism in a nutshell." This distinction is as far-fetched as it is whimsical. "The dragon" we will allow may be regarded somewhat as an emblem of Confucianism; but why "the image" should distinguish Buddhism from its two contemporary idolatrous religions we entirely fail to see; and why "the demon" can be considered as "Taoism in a nutshell" is utterly beyond the greatest stretch of our imagination. What will the learned author of the recently published translation of the Tao-tê-ching, or his gentle admirers, or his fierce detractors, say to this new designation for the system of their pet philosopher! What connection is there between the mild and rational religion of the worthy old sage Lao-taz and "the Demon"? And which or what "Demon"? We further find Luo-tze translated by Mr. Du Bose as meaning "The Old Boy," with the remark that the name of "Old Coon" would be far more appropriate! Surely such trifling is to be deprecated! In short we object to all the three terms he employs as the name of his book, and especially the last. We would suggest as better, though by no means perfect representative terms, Ecism, Altruism, and Conservatism, to distinguish Taoism, Buddhism and Confucianism respectively. These however fail to give their characteristics "in a nutshell," and we should like to see terms which will do so. In the next place we object to a good deal of the strange phraseology Mr. Du Bose employs. For instance, "Mr. and Mrs. Thunder," "Madam Lightning," "Earl Wind," "Dr. Fox," "Mrs. Devil" and "Baby Devil," with various other names both proper and common, seem to be quite out of place in a book evidently intended for intelligent adults, however well they may attract and be adapted to the capacity of Sunday School children. A few genuine Americanisms we will not enumerate. Further we hardly sympathise with the author in his estimate of the character, success, and benefit of the three great religions of China. Viewed from his own missionary stand-point, of course, they seem to be anything but perfect, so that he barely apprehends their various good features or realises how much China owes to them individually and collectively. We will allow however that his language is much more temperate than that of other missionaries we know of. Yet we must give one instance of where we think he errs by making a parody on the name of Mr. Arnold's beautiful poem, "the Light of Asia." The heading of one of his chapters is "Buddha the Night of Asia"!!

We do not quite see the force of the suggestion in the preface as to the use of this book by younger missionaries, who are advised to "orally translate some of the chapters with their teachers" so as to familiarise themselves with the "local idolatry." The work seems to bear chiefly on the idolatry practised in Soochow and its vicinity; and we expect that in the Northern or Southern provinces much of what is described would be entirely unknown. Such is the case with Mr. Doolittle's valuable book, "The Social Life of the Chinese," which, however, only professes to describe what exists at Foochow and the neighbourhood. One word as regard the engraved copies of native pictures, which number nearly 200, and form a distinctive feature of the book. These seem, many of them, to have been culled from the rough cith-penny trash sold on the streets, and thus do not give a fair estimate of Chinese artistic skill. Perhaps it is supposed that these darkly-shaded grotesque misrepresentations suit the purpose of the author better than the more uncommon and really passable

outline pictures which the Chinese can produce. We notice with pleasure and relief a few such, interspersed among the others. The reverend author is slightly addicted to the vice of exaggeration. In one case we find his exaggeration is combined with what is not a little disgusting. He says in speaking of the "God of Lice"; "When one of the lower classes is seen sitting in the sunshine examining his clothes, and making a hearty meal off the multitude of insects which he finds, we do not wonder that the 'God of Lice' is worshipped in this country." In one place speaking of theatricals he asks;—"In home lands, those who find more delight in the theatre than in the church, are they Christians or are they Buddhists?" If this is a conundrum, we give it up.

In conclusion we can point to several passages that are really of considerable descriptive force and beauty. From among others we select a most graphic description of Buddhist worship, and will merely add that we shall welcome any further productions from the able and energetic pen of Mr. Du Bose. "In a Christian assembly the minister is one, here the priests are many. Without, is a busy scene; hawkers of fruits and cakes, sedans arriving with bundles of paper money tied behind, numbers of idlers loafing around, all jovial as if it were a festive occasion. The great censor without is smoking with the burning incense, thrown in as if it were little sticks of wood; the candles are lighted and stuck upon nails on the framework in front of the deity; the brick floor of the temple is covered every few feet with mats to kneel upon; the priests attired in their flowing robes, with the yellow sash thrown across one shoulder, take their places in front of small tables; devout women are ranged about the hall; the grim idols sit facing outwards, and the worshippers stand facing inwards. The wooden pebble strikes the great bell—Attention gods! and the inverted bell is constantly tapped; the chant commences, and the women at each pause join in the invocation; the priests prostrate themselves and knock their heads nine times, while the congregation with bended knee bow before the altar; the priests march round and round tapping small bells, in solemn procession, with eyes almost closed and fixed on the end of the nose, in number ten or twenty or fifty, and once I saw one hundred and twenty, winding in and out according to their inextricable methods of twistification; candles light up the sombre apocatale, the fumes of incense rise, the gongs are sounded, fire crackers explode, paper money is burnt, the wooden fish-head is struck with a dull heavy sound, the brass cymbals clang! clang! clang! the voices commingle, the monotone rises higher and higher, and gradually almost dies away."

Outposts.

KIUKIANG.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Although the thermometer does not indicate any excessive degree of frost—10° to 12°—still the general aspect of the country is essentially Arctic. Even waterfowl are scarce having left us for less inclement skies. All land-locked sheets of water are glazed over with a firm coating of ice, safe for travelling. The muddy current of the Yangtze-Kiang alone resists and renders abortive all Jack Frost's attempt to solidify its surface. A lake at the back of the settlement furnishes excellent skating rinks and torchlight orgies thereon will commemorate this unique season.

Telegraphic communication has been interrupted for several days, reports arriving from out-stations of wires snapped and poles overthrown by sheer weight of ice.

The country within ken is like a pantomime transformation scene. Kiukiang is one superb crystal. The leaves and buds of evergreens have the appearance of crystallized bon-bons. All exposed surfaces have a quarter inch crystal veneer. Nature with a few days and nights of continuous gentle rain, without wind, and simultaneous conglomeration, has produced marvellous, magical effects, and scenes of wondrous beauty! It is indeed a fairylike picture with its setting of snow on the ground and rooftops. But its beauty hardly compensates for the havoc wrought. The reverse of the picture is the injury sustained by all the trees and shrubs in and around the Settlement—in many instances utter destruction. The boles of the trees alone remain erect, all else crushed down or rent away. The "oldest inhabitant" declares the phenomenon to be utterly outside the range of his experience, and records of anything similar apparently do not exist.

28th January, 1887.

NEWCHWANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The winter so far has been very mild, but the cold is now beginning and is showing 5 to 6 degrees below zero=37 to 38 degrees of frost. The Consular pond as a skating rink has been most enjoyable, and for several weeks the ice was splendid, but the dust has now invaded the place and spoiled the ice. The river froze over three days ago, and natives are crossing in large numbers carrying reeds and millet stalks. Soon we shall see numberless carts on portions when a road is practicable. The season has been rather a gay one. On New Year's eve we had a ball, and some forty people sat down to supper and sang "Auld Lang Syne" on 1st January, 1887. The room was large and in splendid condition for dancing, every one seemed pleased and fresh even in the small hours. Now there is a talk of continuing the pleasure of dancing, and already invitations are out for the first "Cinderella," no doubt, to be followed by several more before the port opens. Theatricals are on the tapis also, so that we shall hardly have time to be lonely and miserable. From Moukden we hear that Dr. Christie is about to build a substantial hospital for the benefit of the many patients, who are only too glad to avail themselves of the foreign doctor's skill. Several visitors to the capital of Manchuria can testify to the good reputation, Dr. Christie and the other missionaries are earning for themselves and for the civilized world by their labours for the poor natives. Much could be said in their favour generally, but undoubtedly a doctor has the power to draw the natives to a wonderful extent, and most likely the hospital will eventually become self-supporting. Anyhow, it is a great field for the profession, as many cases come daily under Dr. Christie's care which our medical men at home would pay handsomely for the privilege of attending, and the successful treatment of which, as I have heard from unbiased sources, has raised the reputation of the foreign doctor at Moukden sufficiently to almost recompense him for his unselfish and heavy work.

Of business one cannot say much—hundreds of carts laden with all kinds of produce, arrive daily from the interior—but there will not be a great deal done for the next season till after China New Year which will commence in about three weeks. A circular came round from the Chinese authorities begging subscriptions for the poor and needy—made more so by the bad harvest, the floods, &c. The distress is very heavy, but is fairly well met by the Tao-t'ai here and in other districts.

8th January.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

January 1st.—(1) The Governor of Shêng-ching and his deputy bring to His Majesty's notice two cases of private munificence, for which they solicit the bestowal of permission upon the donors to erect honorary portals in commemoration of their gifts. The first case is that of a secretary of one of the Boards living at Ch'êng-tê Hsien, his place of domicile. The father of this officer, noticing the dilapidated condition of the Ts'ui-sêng College in the provincial capital, had made up his mind to contribute a sum of money to repair it, but fell ill of a mortal sickness before he could carry his project into execution. On his dying bed he exhorted his son to fulfil his intentions, and the latter has now forwarded Tls. 4,000 to the magistrate for the purpose. The second case is that of a literary graduate in the sub-prefecture of Chiu Chow, whose parents left him a posthumous command to found a free school in that place, which possessed no establishment for the gratuitous education of the poor, with the result that the spread of literary knowledge and the mechanical arts was considerably impeded in consequence. The son has now furnished Tls. 200 in money, provided two buildings for school premises, and endowed the school with a gift of land, the land and buildings being valued at Tls. 984.7.

(2) The Governor and Deputy-Governor of Ch'ahar report that the amount required next year for the maintenance of the forty-four stations on the Altai postal route will be Tls. 23,501.55. In accordance with rule, the Memorialists solicit permission to draw this sum from the Superintendent of Customs at Kalgan.—Granted by Rescript.

January 2nd.—(1) Hsi Chih-hsiang is appointed Director of the Court of Sacrificial Worship.

(2) The General of the Ma-lan Chên Division, who is in charge of the Eastern Mausolea, reports that, having recently noticed in the course of a tour of inspection that there were a number of tree stumps lying about along the line of trees forming the geomantic circle round the various mausolea, he sent his aide-de camp to make enquiries. That officer reported on his return that he had found more than a hundred of these stumps in different places; and it is evident that the subalterns on duty must have been guilty of abominable negligence to allow of the tampering with the trees of which the presence of these stumps is an indication. The Memorialist has accordingly suspended the two lieutenants in whose charge the area in question lay, and has disgraced and beaten the non-commissioned officers and soldiers on duty. He has further the honour to request that certain senior officers, who are to blame for not having discovered what was going on and duly reported it, may be committed to the Board for the determination of a penalty.

3.—The Governor of Kuei-chow reports that the receipt in that province for the sale of rank and titles in aid of the Maritime Defence Fund, during the period between 2nd June and 27th September, 1886, was Tls. 653.1.

January 3rd.—Shao Yu-lien, Judge of Honan, had audience of leave.

(1) The Director-General of the Yellow River makes the customary application for permission to draw from the treasury of the Honan Province the sum annually granted for the purchase of supplies of millet stalks and other materials for the repairs to the embankments of the Yellow River. These materials should, strictly speaking, be stacked by the end of the year in readiness for use in the coming spring, but financial embarrassments often caused much delay in their preparation. As it is most important that this delay should not occur, the Memorialist

is endeavouring to have next year's supply ready betimes, and proposes to draw the usual grant, viz., Tls. 65,000, as soon as possible, and to insist upon the materials being stacked by the end of the 10th moon. He will then inspect the stacks in person, and should any of them not be of the prescribed dimensions, or be loosely packed, the responsible official will be denounced and called upon to make the deficiency good.

(2) The Governor of Kuei-chow reports that during the period commencing with the month of December, 1885, and ending with November, 1886, there have been no outstanding cases of robbery with violence left unsettled. This report is submitted in compliance with a Decree issued.

(3) The Governor of Kuangsi reports that the price of grain rose so high in that province during the summer months that constant grain riots were occurring in the neighbourhood of the provincial capital. He accordingly thought it advisable to draw upon the public funds for an advance of money to buy foreign rice for sale at rates which would bring down prices. He recalled at the same time an officer called Ling I ming, and made him Acting Judge of the province with orders to adopt measures in concert with the local authorities, civil, and military, for the suppression of bad characters and the relief of the needy. The prospects of the spring harvest next (this) year are so unpromising, owing to the scarcity of rain this autumn, that there is likely to be considerable distress amongst the people, and the Memorialist has thought it necessary to make timely provision for this contingency by directing the Financial Commissioner to issue funds to certain members of the mercantile class, who will be called upon to establish agencies at different places for the purchase of grain, in anticipation of a rise in price, and its subsequent sale at a moderate rate.

January 4th.—(1) A decree acknowledging the receipt of a memorial from the Censor Wei Nai-hsiang, who asserts that Hsüeh Fu-ch'eng, Vice-Governor of the Metropolitan Prefecture, has been guilty of contemptuous disregard in the matter of a solemn observance, and prays that he may be severely punished for his levity. The Vice-Governor appears to be charged by the Censor with not having brought certain grain from the Temple of Agriculture to the Court of Sacrificial Worship at the proper time, and compares the conduct of the Vice-Governor with that of Shao Yüeh-lien, who has recently been dismissed from the Court of Sacrificial Worship for negligence of duty, considerably in favour of the latter officer. These insinuations are couched in abstruse and ambiguous phraseology, which is in itself an offence against the proprieties, and he goes on with still greater effrontery to suggest that the Vice-Governor (who owes his advancement to his successful medical treatment of the Empress Dowager during her late illness) should be attached to the Imperial College of Physicians. There is no alternative but to administer correction to this officer in order to put a stop to these malicious attacks, and the Censor Wei Nai-hsiang is accordingly committed to the Board for the determination of a penalty. It has always been the duty of the Governor-Adjoint and the Vice-Governor of the Imperial Prefecture to report to the Throne the date of conveying grain from the Temple of Agriculture to the Court of Sacrificial Worship (for use in various sacrificial observations during the year), and upon the date to go in person to the Court and deliver over the grain. Hsüeh Fu-ch'eng is called upon to explain how it was that he did not arrive at the proper time on the present occasion, and Pi Tao-yüan, the Governor-Adjoint, will state whether or no he attended at all.

(2) A Decree conferring rewards upon the Magistrate of the Chung-wei District in Kansu and other officers, to whose efforts was due the successful suppression

of an attempted rising, and the capture of Chao Shên-jien, the ringleader.

(3) The Board of War reports, in reply to instructions received, that the Governor of Yeh-ho has laid himself open to the penalty of degradation and removal to another post for having recommended to the Throne an unworthy officer in the person of the Prefect of Ch'êng-tê Fu, whose conduct has been such as to necessitate his being dismissed the public service.—See Gazette of December 28th.

(4) Wu Ta-ch'êng, newly-appointed Governor at Canton, applies for twenty days' leave on his way to his post in order that he may visit his mother who lives at Soochow. He proposes to travel overland to Shanghai, and, after visiting Soochow, to take steamer from Shanghai for Canton.—Request granted by Rescript.

January 5th.—(1) A Decree from Her Majesty the Empress directing the Imperial Clan Court, in accordance with the rule applicable in these cases, to request the appointment of a substitute for His Majesty upon the occasion of the sacrificial observances performed on the anniversary of the death of the Imperial Secondary Consort, Chuang Shun (? the mother of the Seventh Prince) as well as at the solstices of Ch'ing-ming (spring), Chung-yüan (autumn), and Tung-chih (winter). When His Majesty goes in person to the Western Mausolea he will himself perform sacrifice at the tomb of the consort Chuang Shun after the conclusion of the other observances.

(2) A Decree acknowledging the receipt of a Memorial from a censor called Chin Shon-sung, who represents that the conduct of the prefect on the occasion of the examination riots at Chih-chiang Hsien in Hunan (referred to in the Gazette of Dec. 6th and 14th) must have been very unsatisfactory to allow such things to happen. The Decree of Dec. 6th, in which the prohibitions against riotous conduct are quoted, is referred to in proof of the fact that measures have been taken to prevent a repetition of these acts, and the prefect who conducted the examinations at Chih-chiang Hsien is exonerated from all blame, as he acted quite properly in not yielding to intimidation. The censor is, finally, taken severely to task for introducing extravagant references in his memorial to the Tuenfei and other rebellions. Under a pretence of protecting the literate class he would allow the unruly to run their laws of no avail, thereby ignoring the fundamental principles of government. Let our rebuke be conveyed to the censor, and let his Memorial be "thrown back" to him.

(3) A Decree acknowledging the receipt of the explanation called for from the Vice-Governor of Peking as to the cause of his delay in taking the sacrificial grain to the Court of Sacrificial Worship (see Gazette of January 4th). He reports that he was informed by the Board of Ceremonies that the sacrificial grain would be passed into store at the Ch'ên period (7 to 9 a.m.) on the 28th of October. He accordingly went at early dawn to the Temple of Agriculture to assist in taking delivery; but as his yamên is situated at some distance from the Temple of Agriculture he did not arrive until the close of the Ch'ên period, or nearly 9 a.m. As Hsüeh Fu ch'ên did not fail to put in an appearance within the prescribed time his case need not be considered.

(4) The Governor of Honan reports that during the first six months of the present Chinese year the total *likin* collection on opium and general articles was Tls. 43,654. This is rather more than a hundred taels less than the collection for the previous six months.

(5) The same officer reports that the duty on foreign opium collected by the Honan Customs during the same period was Tls. 4,127, or more than Tls. 300 less than the collection for the previous half

year. Some of the collectors have accordingly been removed and others have had a black mark put against their names.

January, 6th.—A Decree:—Liu Ming-ch'uan reports that with the aid of his troops he has subjugated the aborigines in the north and centre of Formosa, and he solicits the bestowal of marks of distinction upon the officers who have been energetic in the accomplishment of this task. We have perused his memorial and acquainted Ourselves with its contents. During the ninth and tenth moons of the present year Liu Ming-ch'uan penetrated the centre of Formosa, making roads and constructing bridges, and attacking the rebellious aborigines as he advanced step by step. Seven of their stockades were carried from first to last, and the respective communities repented them of their crimes and sued for permission to submit. The Governor, after consultation with Lin Wei-yüan, then advanced to the attack of the rebellious savages in the northern portion of the island and overawed them with a display of force, the result being that the Pai-wei and more than twenty other communities also embraced civilisation. The measures concerted and carried out by Liu Ming-ch'uan for the subjugation and pacification of these people were most appropriate, and he will be committed to the board for the determination of a liberal form of reward. It is right, too, that the officers who displayed energy in these operations should receive their due proportion of reward. Here follows a long list of officers, generals, and others, upon whom buttons, brevets, etc., are bestowed. The name of a general called Wu Hung-lo heads the list with the distinction of the Yellow Riding Jacket.

(2) Li P'ei-jung is appointed General of the Su-chou Division in Kansu.

(3) A Decree acknowledging the receipt of a report from the chancellors of the Han Lin Yüan who were directed to enquire into the conduct of a compiler of that institution, charged by a censor with depravity of conduct and with having gone to his native place without leave. The enquiry instituted by the chancellors shows that Lin-jên, the compiler in question, was appointed last year examiner for Shansi, and a certain trader in ginseng having called at his office to demand payment of the balance of money due on account of ginseng purchased by Lin-jên, and there being guilty of noisy demonstrations, he was sent to the police station and afterwards released. It was this episode that must have given rise to the false reports upon which the denunciation of the censor was based. The Memorialists, however, find that the compiler did pay a surreptitious visit to his home in November last without having applied for leave, and the compiler is accordingly committed to the board for the determination of a penalty as a warning to officers that they may not absent themselves from duty without proper authorisation.

January 7th.—(1) Hsüeh Fu-chên, vice-Governor of Peking, is appointed vice-Director of the Imperial Clan Court, and Fu-mou, Director of the Court of State Ceremonial.

(2) A Memorial from Wang Chi-jung, Censor of the Shensi Circuit.—The Memorialist has always heard that when money is issued by the Board of Revenue, the clerks are in the habit of demanding certain fees with such regularity that the practice has now become the rule. These fees, however, which were styled "private fees," used not to exceed a few tens of taels, or, at the outside, a hundred taels or so, and no one for a moment supposed that anyone should have the audacity to charge as much as Tls. 10,000. And yet the Memorialist has been informed that, on the occasion of the issue of Tls. 500,000 by the Board of Revenue as a first advance on the Tls. 1,000,000 required for river works in Shantung, a certain clerk called Shih En-

t'ao withheld the money and and absented himself from the yamên because he could not get the sum he demanded as a fee, and it was not until an understanding was come to as to the amount to be paid that he would issue the money to the person authorised to receive it. This fee, it is said, was Tls. 10,000, and had already been appropriated by Shih En-t'ao when it came to the knowledge of the heads of the board, who handed him over to the police for the recovery of the money; and rumour has it that upon the amount being paid he asked and obtained immunity from further proceedings. The Memorialist would venture to hold the opinion that, considering the number of villainies perpetrated by government clerks which never come to light, in a case of such gravity as that of Shih En-t'ao and involving so large an amount, the legal penalty ought certainly to be inflicted, now that he has paid the money up, as a warning to others for the future. The mere handing of him over to the police for the recovery of his gains and the infliction of some slight chastisement will encourage others to go still further in their contempt of the law. The Memorialist would accordingly pray that His Majesty will order that Shih En-t'ao be handed over to the Board of Punishments that they may enquire into the truth of this matter and inflict the severest punishment that the law lays down for such offences.

(3) Another censor presents a Memorial on the same subject. He tells more or less a similar story, but gives the name of the clerk as Shih Ch'un-ch'üan, and says that the fee levied was Tls. 50,000 on the Tls. 500,000. He hears that the clerk never went to the police station at all, and has not disgorged the money. He concludes with a request that the clerk may be sent to the Board of Punishments for trial and sentence, and that the responsible heads of the board may be duly punished.

(4) A third censor, writing on the same subject, gives further details. He asserts that when the agent of the Governor of Shantung called at the board to take delivery of the money, he was told that unless he paid a heavy fee the money would not be issued to him at treasury weight. Upon his return to Shantung with the money minus the fee deducted, the governor wrote to Sun Yi-ching, vice-President of the Board of Revenue, who was a connection of his, to the effect that the fee charged was exorbitant, and called upon his relative to recover the money from the person who levied it and also to take him to task. Sun Yi-ching thereupon showed the letter to his colleagues in the board, and they determined to hush the matter up. They accordingly did not only not report the circumstance to the Throne, but never sent the clerk to the Board of Punishments, contenting themselves with placing him under the custody of a police magistrate in the southern city with orders to recover from him a fine of Tls. 10,000, to which he had been condemned. After calling attention to the laxity of supervision on the part of the heads of the board in allowing such a thing to happen, and to their attempt at hushing the matter up when the governor wrote and told them what had happened, the censor goes on to ask in what light this so-called "fine" of Tls. 10,000 in which the clerk was mulcted is to be regarded. Does it come out of his own pocket, or is it the government money which he has appropriated? If it is the government money that he has stolen, then it is booty which he ought to disgorge, and it is a misnomer to call it a fine. If the fine is looked upon as a penalty for his offence, it should be pointed out that the law specified certain penalties proportionate to the amount embezzled, and the clerk should not get off with a mere fine.—For Decree in answer to the Memorials on this subject see Gazette of 30th December.

January 8th.—(1) A Decree sanctioning a further grant of 300 piculs of rice to the warm refuge in the western portion of the Chinese city of Peking, the authorities having represented that, in consequence of the large number of applicants for relief that have presented themselves this winter, the earlier grant of 300 piculs will not be sufficient for the requirements of the establishment.

(2) Kao Wan-p'eng, at present serving as Taotai in Anhui, is appointed Governor of the Imperial Prefecture.

(3) A Decree sanctioning an application from the vice-Governor of the Imperial Prefecture that the State Historiographer's office should be directed to compile a record of the official career of the late Chou Chia-mei, Governor of the Imperial Prefecture.

(4) A Memorial from the Governor of Shantung reporting the closing of the breach in the embankment of the Yellow River at Yao Chia K'ou in the Hui-min District, and soliciting the bestowal of rewards upon the officers to whose exertions the successful completion of this work is due.—See Gazette of December 31st.

(5) The Governor of Shantung reports that he has given orders for that portion of the Grand Canal for which he is responsible to be prepared for the arrival of the grain fleet next year. The southern bank of the Grand Canal from Shih-li P'u to the borders of Kiangsu is under the charge of the Director-General of the Yellow River, the northern bank, from T'ao-ch'eng P'u to Lin-ch'ing Chow, being kept in order by the Prefect of Tung-ch'ang Fu. In consequence of the very unsatisfactory condition of this section, 200 li in length, which is silting up more and more every day and has become a constant source of danger from its liability to overflow at certain seasons and inundate the country, it has been decided to construct certain stone dams in addition to carrying out the usual dredging operations.

(6) A Memorial from the Board of War.—The Memorialists would point out that in a work entitled 中樞政考, or a "Digest of Military Administration," it is laid down that in the event of a civil official of the rank of Taotai, or any officer of higher rank, dying at his post or when engaged on special service, it is permissible to issue a document known as a K'an-ho, when the remains are taken back to the place of domicile of the deceased, (which entitles the bearer to porters, etc., at government cost), a penalty being attached to the issue of such a document when it is not duly authorised. There is nothing, it should be added, authorising the issue of this K'an-ho for the deceased members of any officer's family. The Governor of Shansi has now forwarded to the Memorialists' Board for cancellation a K'an-ho issued by the Acting-Judge of Kueichow to accompany the remains of the wife of Li Yung-ch'ing, Acting-Governor of Kueichow, on their way to P'ing-ting Chow in Shansi, which is the Acting-Governor's place of domicile. They would point out that the acting-judge was not at liberty to issue such a document in this case; further, that the printed form upon which the details were filled in bore the date of the reign Tao Kuang, which words had been struck out and the characters for Kuang Hsi substituted. Although the acting-governor had written a note on the K'an-ho to the effect that he would provide his own horses, boats, and carts, the issue of such a document was none the less irregular; and it is the duty of the memorialists to request that the Governor of Kueichow may be instructed to find out the name of the judge who issued the permit, and that Li Yung-ch'ing may be committed to the board for the determination of a penalty. It will further be the duty of the board to write to the various provincial high authorities along the line of route to ascertain whether or no any porters, horses, or boats

were supplied by them on the faith of this document, action being taken in accordance with the answers received.—See Gazette of December 30th.

January 9th.—(1) A Memorial from the Board of War complaining of the long delays which occur in the filling up of vacancies in the grades of officers from colonel downwards in the three provinces of Szechuen, Kuangtung and Kuangsi. In Szechuen there are as many as forty vacancies, some dating seven years back, which the provincial authorities have left unfilled in spite of calls from the Board of War to nominate officers to them. Peremptory letters on the subject two years ago, followed by further orders last year, only secured recommendations for a few vacancies, and most of these were not admissible by the regulations; so fresh nominations had to be called for involving long delays. In the provinces of Kuangtung and Kuangsi, also, there are thirty-four similar vacancies unfilled, and as in all the provinces named there is no lack of expectants of office, there can be no difficulty in making nominations and thus avoiding the disheartening effect which the delay in promotion has upon the persons interested. The Memorialists beg again to submit a list of these vacancies, with a prayer that His Majesty will direct the Governor-General of the Two Kuang and of Szechuen to make a selection of officers eligible for promotion to these vacancies, and to submit their names to His Majesty within three months of the date of the receipt of the board's communication on the subject.—The requisite order was given in a special Decree earlier issued.

(2) The Governor of Kiangsi applies for and is granted two months' respite from his public duties in order to recruit his health, the malady from which he suffers being described as giddiness, singing in the ears, and palpitation of the heart.

January 10th.—(1) Wang-lien is appointed Taotai of the Feng, Ying, Liu, San Circuit in Anhui.

(2) A Decree acknowledging the receipt of a Memorial from a censor who suggests the establishment of an additional police bureau in Peking, the members of the force being composed of trained irregular troops. He is moved to make the suggestion by the prevalence of crimes of theft and burglary in Peking. The maintenance of law and order in the metropolis is the special duty of the gendarmerie; and if the censor's allegations be true a most unconstitutional state of affairs exists. The Captain General of Gendarmerie is hereby called upon to take active measures for the repression of crime, and to see to it that there is no laxity of police supervision. As the introduction of the arrangement suggested by the censor will involve confusing changes his proposals will not be considered.

(3) The Governor of Kiangsi submits a list of the porcelain manufactured for Palace use, under the auspices of the Kuikiang Customs during the present year. The following is the summary of the articles as enumerated in the Memorial:—80 pieces of square porcelaine, best quality; 1,240 pieces of round porcelain, best quality; 422 coloured flower pots, best quality; 1,200 vases, plates, etc., to be given away in presents; 2,000 yellow porcelain bowls with green dragons upon them, for Palace use. These articles, which have already been shipped by steamer for Peking, cost Tls. 21,487. A detailed and descriptive list (not published) is submitted for His Majesty's approval.

January 11th.—The Governor of the Metropolitan Prefecture reports a fall of snow in Peking to the depth of five inches and upwards.

(1) A Decree expressing His Majesty's profound gratitude for the grateful snow, which has fallen after the prayers offered up by himself and his princes and others. He announces his intention of going to the

Tao Kao Tien in person on the 12th inst., to return thanks for the mercies of heaven. Similar services of thanksgiving at other state temples will be attended by princes and nobles as designated in the Decree.

(2) The Court of Sacrificial Worship submits a list of various state sacrifices which have to be offered in the first and second moons of the coming Chinese year, and His Majesty has nominated various high officers to conduct them. The sacrifices to the tutelary gods of the state on the 4th of March, and that to the God of Literature on the 6th of March, will be conducted by His Majesty in person, as will also that to the God of War on the 7th of March.

(3) The Governor-General of Shensi and Kansu, reports that the total receipts from *lekin* on general articles in Kansu, during the 11th year of Kuang Hsi, were Tls. 348,268, of which Tls. 346,859 have been expended by the provincial treasurer as accounted for, leaving a balance of Tls. 1,409 to be passed on the account for the 12th year. The above sum does not include the *lekin* on salt, returns of which will be sent in separately.

(4) The greater portion of this day's Gazette is occupied with a Memorial from the Governor-General of Shensi and Kansu reporting the successful suppression of an attempted rising in the Chung-wei district, of which one Chao Shén-hsien was the leader, his following numbering several hundreds of people. Notice of the date of the rising having been conveyed to the magistrate, he appeared on the scene with an armed force, supported later on by reinforcements sent by the governor-general, and an attack was made from three sides simultaneously upon the position taken up by the insurgents. After a fierce fight the latter were put to flight, and in the pursuit which ensued the leader was taken and his head cut off, some twenty others being made prisoners. These were duly examined by the financial and judicial commissioners, and it appeared from the depositions of three of them, that Chao S. é-hsien, or Chao the Ogre, as he styled himself, had persuaded them into the belief that he was gifted with supernatural powers and was in affinity with the spirit of a certain mountain. He told them that he could make fighting men and horses out of paper, and that he was possessed of a paper charm which, if eaten, would enable the partaker to do without food. He also gave them a so called proclamation, the recitation of which in the presence of any person would, he said, cause such person to join his band. Finding that this proclamation really did seem to be effectual, and induced by promises of assistance from a large force that was in reserve, they agreed to rise in revolt with the results that had now followed. These three prisoners were thereupon decapitated, and the remainder, who were to a certain extent the victims of compulsion, were imprisoned, chained for a given period to stones or iron bars, exposed in the cage, or beaten, as the case might be. The Memorial concludes with an application for the bestowal of rewards upon the officers to whose active measures the prompt suppression of this rising was due.—Request granted in a Decree dated January 3rd.

Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the Meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Thursday, the 20th January 1887, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. A. G. Wood (Chairman), M. Adler, Th. Bieber, P. Maclean, R. de Malherbe, M. M. Moses, J. F. Seaman, and the Secretary.

THE SHANGHAI RACE COURSE.	
Dr.	
December 31st, 1886.	Tl.
To Dividend paid Shanghai Race Club	486.76
„ Balance	663.09
	Tl....1,149.85

Cr.		
1886.	Tls.	
January 1st. By Balance	608.82	
December 31st. " Rent	528.00	
" " " Interest	12.03	
	Tls. 1,148.85	
1887.	Tls.	
January 1st. By Balance at Bank	563.09	
Shanghai, 20th January, 1887.		
BARNES DALLAS,		
Hony. Secretary, Shanghai Race Course.		
Audited with Bank Book and found correct,		
(Signed) T. WOOD,		
WM. CANOE.		

The CHAIRMAN said that the next business was the election of stewards. The members would find printed slips containing the names of gentlemen who were willing to serve.

The ballot resulted in the election of Messrs. J. M. Ringer, A. Myburgh, W. Howie, J. J. Keewick, Robt. Mackenzie, O. Schuffenhauer and A. MacLeod.

The CHAIRMAN then asked the meeting to vote for the Ballotting Committee, slip had been furnished given the names of the present Committee, and members could if they wanted, strike out such names as they did not wish to vote for and add others in their place to complete the member required to serve.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT could not see the necessity of going through the formality of voting when no others than those on the list handed round were named.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that if any member liked he could strike out the names on the list and substitute others. The slips were furnished merely for the convenience of the members.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT said that mode of election was a farce. (Laughter.)

Mr. HOWIE—Then will you propose the whole list? (Laughter.)

Mr. WAINWRIGHT—No, there are several of them whom I do not wish to propose. (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN again informed Mr. Wainwright that the lists were supplied merely for the convenience of the members.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed and Mr. Such seconded that the gentlemen on the Ballot Committee be re-elected.

A show of hands was taken upon the proposition which was declared lost:—

The election of the Ballotting Committee was then proceeded with and the Chairman announced the Committee re-elected as follows:—Messrs. J. M. Ringer, A. Myburgh, J. J. Keewick, Robert Mackenzie, O. Schuffenhauer, W. Howie, A. Ilbert, F. B. Aubert, H. Baker, C. A. L. Dunn, A. Ehlers, G. Gales, G. G. Hopkins, E. G. Low, F. J. Maitland, R. de Malherbe, A. MacLeod, W. Meyerink, G. W. Noel, W. H. Short.

The CHAIRMAN—There is only one more thing to which I would refer before proceeding to the next business. That owing to the death of the Clerk of the Course Mr. C. A. L. Dunn has been asked to take it in charge, and is willing to do so. Has any gentleman any other remarks to make?

Mr. REID said that as nearly all the members were then present he would take their opinion and ask the Stewards to consider his suggestion as to reducing the cost of the tiffin.

The CHAIRMAN said that if it was considered it would be for the benefit of the Club, the item might be done away with, and the Committee would provide tea and coffee, for the visitors, and something more substantial if they wished for it (laughter.)

Mr. SUCH was for continuing the existing arrangements. (hear, hear.)

Mr. WAINWRIGHT said that one of the very few alleviating circumstances for the ladies who went to the trouble of attending the races, and enduring them all day was the tiffin at which they could get something to eat and at the same time talk to their friends, (hear, hear and laughter) and it seemed to him that they would be treating them very badly if they did away with it. The Club could very well afford \$1,000.

The CHAIRMAN then took a show of hands of those in favour of things remaining as heretofore in this respect and nearly every one in the room held up his hand. On the contrary motion being put, only Mr. Reid with two or three others supported the suggestion of retrenchment, and the matter was dropped amidst laughter.

The CHAIRMAN however, remarked that he thought Mr. Reid was quite right in bringing the matter forward.

A discussion followed on a suggestion made by Mr. Baker, to the effect that one or two races for bona fide griffins purchased in the autumn he added to the autumn meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said the matter would be considered by the Stewards, and in reply to Mr. Schuffenhauer said that he understood Mr. Baker referred to ponies brought down after the preceding races. It was not a question of ownership but of arrival.

Mr. MEYERINK informed the meeting that he would make no secret of the fact that he was going to buy a lot of ponies and keep them over for the autumn, as it was well known that they had no opportunity of buying good ponies in the autumn.

A show of hands was taken upon Mr. Baker's suggestion which was adopted, The CHAIRMAN saying that the subject would be referred to the Stewards.

Another suggestion brought forward by Mr. E. H. Gore-Booth as to the advisability of laying on the telephone to the Grand Stand was also referred to the Stewards.

Mr. DUNN complained that it was often impossible for members to get horse boxes, because others had often as many as ten in occupation.

The CHAIRMAN said that the vacant boxes were advertised in the commencement of the season and no one could get more than four, unless there were not applications enough for the lot.

This brought the business to a close, and a vote of thanks having been accorded to the Chairman, the meeting separated.

ANNUAL MEETING OF CHINKIANG LANDRENTERS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 1886.

The retiring Council regret that any difficulty was raised about the votes duly passed at the last annual general meeting, and the election made based on the same, they do not desire to enter on the question unless specially called on by the Land Renters to do so.

Bund.—A report on the condition of the Bund was this year obtained from T. W. Kingmill Esq., C.E.; his suggestions will be seen in his letter. Messrs. Gearing & Co. now report damage in houses on the Bund (for which they are agents) in consequence of its having sunk. The outgoing Council recommend that considering the present balance in hand, and the prospect of a good income for year 1887, that the Council elected should advertise for tenders as to cost of reconstructing the Bund from the Centre Road to the Custom House, a distance of some 400 feet, and adopt measures such as may render it solid, and avoid the necessity of such constant outlays as were made in former years.

Roads, &c.—The roads are now in good order, the drains are also in order, the Bund would be improved if the surface was picked up, the stones broken up and again rolled in.

Debentures.—Debentures and interest have been repaid, the Landrenters are now free from debt.

Police.—There were two Constables added to the number formerly employed, making the total number consist of one foreigner, and eight natives. During the year 27 culprits were apprehended.

Club Lot.—There has been a promise of a lease from H.M.'s Government obtained and no obstacle should exist to prevent the Council issuing a sub-lease.

Municipal Lot.—No lease can be granted for this lot as was already supposed, the Council recommend the amount of deposit paid in by Messrs. Duff and Carnie be repaid to them, minus rent for the years they occupied this lot.

Taxes—Police, Lighting, &c., taxes.—There was some difficulty in arriving at correct particulars as to these taxes owing to former memos, having been "misaid or destroyed," they were not therefore handed to the present outgoing Council. A satisfactory amount was collected under this head amounting to Tls. 566.50 against Tls. 377.51 last year; all foreign hongs paid as formerly except Mr. Duff's and Mr. Carnie's hongs. For all these taxes a receipt was issued and consequently native hongs were as a rule willing to pay for a benefit such as results from this tax, which benefit they appreciate.

Estimated Revenue for 1887.

	Tls.
Balance in hand	983.19
Interest in Bank	8.17
Tao-tai's contribution	200.00
Pawn-shops, say	350.00
Licenses, say	210.00
Police, Lighting, &c., tax, say	630.00
Bund Rent, say	2,000.00
Cub Lot \$1,700	1,173.00
Tls.	5,554.36

Estimated Expenditure for 1887.

	Tls.
Police wages	727.09
" clothing	62.38
Coolies wages	152.93
Lighting	152.31
Rent Police premises	95.80
Stationery	20.00
Shroff's allowance	50.00
Extra Concession Road fund	50.00
Refund on Municipal Lot	170.00
Sundries	50.00
Balance for repairing roads and for re-constructing the Bund	4,023.85
Tls.	5,554.36

The Council congratulate the Land Renters that they are now free from debt, they have a good balance in hand, and a prospect of a good income next year.

ROBERT G. WHITE,
Hon. Sec.

Chinkiang, 17th Jan., 1887.

SUMMARY EXPENDITURE 1886.

Dr.	Tls.
To Police Wages	727.09
" Clothing	62.38
" Coolies	152.93
" Oil, &c.	152.31
" Rent of Police Premises and Repairs	95.80
" Expenses for Legal opinion and Dr. White's Passage, &c.	66.84
" Donation to Ex Concession Road fund	50.00
" Stone for Bund and roads and repairs to Bund steps	143.96
" T. W. Kingmill for Report on Bund	47.17
" Debentures paid Loan 1876 & 1877	1,043.25
" Interest on do.	196.27
" Stationery, &c.	1,149.52
" Shroff's salary for 1886	12.94
" Expenses re. Legal consultation Mrs. Duff's Lease	50.00
" Lamps	19.11
" Sundries	3.45
" Balance in Bank and Compradore's hands	5.19
Tls.	983.19

SUMMARY RECEIPTS, 1886.

Cr.	C. Tls.
By Balance in Hongkong Bank	298.73
" Tao-tai's Contribution	316.66
" License Tax Pawn Shops	200.00
" Hotels, &c.	30.00
" Passengers boats	278.00
" Coolies	55.05
" Rent for year ending 30th Sept., 1887, from two Steamer Companies	12.42
" Sundries	641.47
" Police and lighting taxes	2,000.00
C. Tls.	18.18
	566.50
C. Tls.	3,721.83
Balance in Compradore's hands	49.62
" Hongkong Bank	933.57
C. Tls.	983.19

with some interest due from the Bank.

I have examined the summary and found it agrees with the accounts. (Sd) D. W. DAVID.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Landrenters and occupiers in the British Concession, Chinkiang, held at H.B.M.'s Consulate on the 18th January, 1887.

Present:—Messrs. Bean, David, Chevalier, Duff, Iffland, Jerdein, Novion, Star-

key, and White. Mr. L. Bergholz, U.S. Consul, also attended.

Mr. EMERY acted as Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN, E. L. Oxenham, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul, read the circular convening the meeting. An account of the votes was then taken.

The CHAIRMAN then said he had been asked by several members of the community, and by the Council, to hold a preliminary enquiry for the purpose of revising the list of votes and voters.

A circular, notifying such an enquiry, was then issued; attendance was of course voluntary as no provision existed for such revision in the Regulations; applications were duly made by all the electors.

The list of voters was then read out by the Chairman who asked if electors had still any further objections to raise.

Mr. Duff objected to Mr. Jerdein's vote, but in the absence of any fresh evidence the vote was allowed to stand.

Dr. WHITE enquired why he could not sublet when others appeared to be allowed to do so. It was pointed out to him that from the evidence—read out to meeting—given by him at the enquiry, he had acknowledged he only paid Tls. 150 a year for the upper premises he occupied, and that the Chip-yuan opium hong paid Tls. 150 for the lower premises of the same building. Payment by him of of Tls. 300 a year for his upper premises would qualify him. As to Lot 7, Mr. Carnie possessed Mr. Daly's power; and as to Lot 16, Mr. J. I. Miller, whose agent Mr. Carnie was, had for a number of years been recognised as the representative of the lot, Mr. F. P. Mackintosh being absent in unknown parts; the vote would stand.

Mr. BEAN objected to I. M. Customs having two occupying votes in addition to the three votes for Lots 4 and 5. Mr. Novion only claimed one vote for Mr. Ifland who received a sum equal to Tls. 300 a year to find his own house. Vote remained.

Mr. DAVID then produced fresh evidence that Mr. Silas had sublet portion of the godown thus reducing his voting qualification to under Tls. 300 a year. Letter from Mr. Silas dated 13th January 1887 and sublease produced. Mr. Duff said Mr. Silas had only a verbal agreement with Mr. Carnie not to sublet. Vote struck out. Total of votes was therefore 31.

Mr. Bean, Lots 2, 3, 8, 9, 15, (6); agent I. C. N. S. Co. (2).

Mr. Carnie, Lot 13, (1); agent Lot 7 (1); agent, Lot 16 (1); agent, C. N. Co. (2).

Rev. Père Chevalier, (3), Lots 14 and 17.

Mr. David, (1) (occupier).

Mr. Duff (2), Lot 16; agent McBain (1).

Mr. Jerdein (1), occupier.

Mr. Starkey agent Lots 10, 11, 12, (3);

Lot 1 (2); occupier (1).

Mr. Novion Lots 4 and 5 (3); Mr. Ifland

(1), occupier.

The election of Councillors for 1887 then took place with the following result:—Mr. Bean 23 votes, Mr. David 23, Mr. Jerdein 16, Mr. Duff 15. The Chairman declared Messrs. Bean, David and Jerdein duly elected. The Report of the Council for 1886 was then read by the Honorary Secretary (Dr. White). Mr. Duff objected to one item of the accounts; viz, the amount charged for legal expenses, and moved a resolution that this be struck out. Mr. Novion, while not seconding the resolution, objected to lawyers being employed to assist the Council. Mr. Starkey agreed with Mr. Novion in regard to the Council obtaining legal advice, and thought they should first seek the approval of the Landrenters. Mr. Duff asked to be shown the legal opinions of Mr. Wilkinson given to the Council and was informed that he could see them at the close of the meeting. An item of Five \$20 was queried; explained that it should have been entered as compensation. The Chairman then called attention to the illegal taxation by Council on boats and coolies, and said it depended on the reply of H.M.'s Minister

as to the refund of the money. The Council must not regard these amounts as assured receipts. In reply to a question the Chairman further said that no provision was made for these taxes in the Land Regulations and that their levy was illegal; the Regulations must be amended to allow of such taxation. Mr. Bean proposed and Mr. David seconded, that the accounts and report be passed; carried, Mr. Duff not voting. The meeting then proceeded to provide funds for the ensuing year.

Mr. BEAN proposed and Mr. JERDEIN seconded, that all Chinese Hongs or Householders, including the compradores of foreigners, pay a tax per month of not less than 50 cents or more than \$2, the amount payable by each to be left to the Municipal Council, and such tax to be collected quarterly in advance; carried.

Proposed by Mr. BEAN and seconded by Mr. JERDEIN—"That the Tax on Hotels, Tea Houses and Opium Divans be not less than \$10 nor more than \$50 per annum, the amount payable by each to be fixed by the Municipal Council."

To this an amendment was moved by Mr. DUFF and seconded by Mr. DAVID:—"That the amount be fixed at \$30 per annum." The amendment was carried, Messrs. Duff, David, Jerdein, Novion, and Père Chevalier, representing 16 votes, voting in favour of it.

Proposed by Mr. BEAN and seconded by Mr. JERDEIN—"That a tax of Tls. 150 per annum be levied on each Pawn-shop On the concession." On its being represented that this tax fell heavily on small establishments, the motion was altered to "not more than Tls. 150 and not less than Tls. 50." Carried as altered.

Proposed by Mr. DUFF, and seconded by Mr. STARKEY—"That Tls. 10 per Lot be collected from each Lot-holder."

Mr. STARKEY remarked that he seconded this proposition, because he thought it placed Lot-holders in a proper position vis à vis the Chinese and the public, and because he thought the Council, in view of the repairs required for the Bund, would want all the money they could get. For the motion, Messrs. Starkey, Duff, David and Novion, 18; against, Messrs. Bean, Jerdein and Père Chevalier, 12; Motion carried.

General Business:

Two Resolutions, involving matters of a personal and contentious character, were, at the Chairman's suggestion, withdrawn by the respective parties when their turn came on for discussion.

Proposed by Mr. BEAN and seconded by Mr. JERDEIN—"That the Landrenters approve of the terms which the Council offered for lease on the Club Lot—see letter book—and that they also approve of the amount of Tls. 170 being refunded on the Municipal Lot. The Chairman read the letter giving the terms on which the Council would grant lease to Mr. Duff. Mr. Duff recited at some length the circumstances of the purchase, and called attention to the high price he gave for the smallest Lot on the concession. Mr. Bean wished to grant Mrs. Duff her lease for the ground as soon as possible, and for the Council to receive \$1,700; he considered four or five or six times the value of the land had been given for it. The Chairman said the issue of a lease rested mainly with the Office of Works and the question of residence of Chinese on the Concession was likely to be raised. Mr. Bean thought the more Chinese on the Concession the better for Landrenters. Mr. Novion then proposed and Mr. Bean seconded to alter the motion to: "That this question does not concern the Landrenters but that the Council be invited to settle the questions with Mr. Duff as soon as possible." Carried.

Proposed by Mr. BEAN and seconded by Mr. STARKEY—"That the present condition of the Bund from the Middle Road to the Custom House is bad,—that the incoming

Council be empowered to invite tenders for its repair or reconstruction if necessary, as the houses of Lot 1 are being threatened." Mr. Starkey thought the tenders should be obtained as soon as possible while the water is low. It was presumed the tenders would be submitted to the Landrenters for acceptance. The Chairman said he would communicate with the Tao-tai on the question of throwing stones into the hole in the River-bed opposite Lot 1.

Mr. BEAN said the Chinese Government claimed the shore below low water mark; and the Chairman said the question of foreshore had been settled in this sense.

Proposed by Mr. BEAN, seconded by Mr. STARKEY—"That the Land Regulations and Bye-laws should be reprinted with certain revisions, that the incoming Council be requested to prepare a revised copy as soon as possible and to submit it for approval and confirmation to a General Meeting to be hereafter held." It was suggested that the Landrenters be invited by the Council by circular, to suggest such amendments as each might think needful.

The following letter (copy) was put in by Mr. Duff:—

Chinkiang, 14th January, 1887.
The Electors of the British Concession,
Chinkiang.

GENTLEMEN,—Mr. George McBain desires me to offer you on his behalf, the sum of Chinkiang Tls. Five hundred per annum, for permission to connect his pontoons from his Hulk with the Bunding of the Concession (should the native authorities consent to his being allowed to do so) for the term of five years giving option of renewal on similar terms. It must be understood that if this offer be accepted, above payment shall free his business from all further Municipal taxation,—provided the terms of agreement be of the same nature in all other respects as those of the other companies.

I remain,
Gentlemen,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) THOS. W. DUFF.
Agent
for Geo. McBain.

The acceptance of this offer of Tls. 500 for permission to connect Mr. McBain's hulk with the Bund by pontoons was proposed by Mr. Duff and seconded by Mr. Starkey.

Mr. STARKEY thought the offer fair and reasonable, as McBain's business here was very small; moreover in view of Bund repairs the concession required as much money as it could get. The hulk would too protect the Bund by Lot 1 from the scour of the river. Mr. Bean called attention to the excellence of the site, the best of the concession, and thought the agreement should be only for one year. In favour of Mr. McBain's offer, Messrs. Starkey, Duff, Novion, Chevalier, and David, Messrs. Jerdein and Bean not voting; carried.

Proposed by Mr. DUFF and seconded by Mr. STARKEY—"That Regulation XVII be amended from Supreme Court for China and Japan, to Consular Court at Chinkiang." Mr. Bean presumed the right of appeal to Supreme Court would still remain, and was assured by Chairman it would. At present no means existed of suing the Council except in Shanghai; this sometimes bore hardly on individuals; the amendment would require the sanction of H.B.M.'s Minister. Mr. Starkey suggested that the Council should obtain a suitable site for a Police Station. The proceedings terminated at a late hour with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr. Novion and seconded by Mr. Bean.

E. L. OXENHAM,
Chairman.

KIUKIANG LANDRENTERS' MEETING.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Landrenters on the British Concession at Kiukiang, held at H.B.M.'s Consulate the 17th January 1887, C. W. Everard Esq., H.B.M.'s Acting Consul, in the chair.

Present.—Messrs. Simpson, Hykes, du Jardin, D'Almeida and Rev. Pere Ciceri.

The Report and Accounts of the outgoing Council were then read as follows:—

Report of the Kiukiang Municipal Council for the year ending December 31st 1886.

The Council, which the Land-renters elected at their Annual Meeting held January 16th 1886, consisted of Messrs. Simpson, Hykes, Hood, and Koonsnetzoff.

At its first meeting, Mr. Lenox Simpson was nominated Chairman and Mr. J. R. Hykes Secretary. Messrs. Hood and Koonsnetzoff, have left the port, resigned at the end of September, and Mr. F. du Jardin was then invited by the Council to a seat on the Board for the remainder of the year.

The following is an abstract of the year's accounts:—

Income.	
	Tls.
By Rent of Bund Frontages	1,500.00
„ Municipal call on 29 Lots @ Tael 30 each	870.00
Do dues on 5 Ocean Steamers	50.00
„ Sundry small receipts	3.85
„ Cash contingent from Kiukiang Bund Works Committee—Police &c.	43.20

Kiukiang Tael.....2,467.05

Expenditure.	
	Tls.
To Balance from 1885	122.70
„ Police Wages	1,184.12
„ Clothing	72.99
„ Cost of Raising the Bund	670.13
„ Lighting.....	49.72
„ Repairing Roads	87.67
„ Rent of Police Quarters	118.80
„ Medical Officer's fee.....	75.00
„ Donation to Hospital	25.00
„ Sundries.....	44.27
„ Balance	16.65

Kiukiang Tls. 2,467.05

Kiukiang, 14th January, 1887.

(Signed) FRED. DU JARDIN,
Acting Hon'y. Treasurer.

Audited and found correct,
(Signed) PAUL H. KING.

Bund.—In accordance with last year's resolution of the Landrenters, the Bund has been raised 14 inches, at a cost of Tls. 670, and has thus practically been put above high-water mark during the summer floods to the great satisfaction and comfort of the residents. The various jetties have been repaired and provided with wooden railings to prevent accidents to passengers from steamers arriving at night.

Roads.—The roads have been kept in good order, and were entirely re-installed when the Bund was raised. Little will be required on their maintenance during 1887.

The want of drainage in the settlement is a serious drawback to the health of the community, and the earnest attention of the incoming Council should be given to this matter.

The lighting of the Concession is not so good as it might be, and new lamps of a greater illuminating power will be needed during the current year.

Police.—The Council is satisfied that the Police work during the past year has been efficiently performed. The force now consists of a foreign Inspector and eleven native constables.

The Council recommend that the call per Lot for 1887 be Tls. 25.

(Signed) C. LENOX SIMPSON,
Chairman.
„ J. R. HYKES,
Secretary.

Proposed by Mr. D'ALMEIDA and seconded by the Rev. PERE CICERI—That the Accounts as presented be passed.—Carried unanimously.

The following members were declared duly elected to serve on the Council for 1887:—Messrs. Campbell, Hykes, du Jardin and Simpson.

Mr. D'ALMEIDA proposed that an iron rail should be put up along the Bund.

Mr. HYKES remarked that he had heard that two years ago the Bund Works Committee made a proposal to get a railing

from England for the Bund, on condition that the Municipal Council should vote Tael 200 which was done, and he (Mr. Hykes) understood that this had been ordered.

Mr. SIMPSON replied that the question was brought up, but met with such strong objection from the various Firms that it was dropped.

Mr. HYKES proposed and Mr. D'ALMEIDA seconded, that the Municipal Call per Lot for 1887 be Tls. 25.—Carried unanimously. Mr. D'ALMEIDA asked if the China Merchants Co. contribute towards Municipal funds.

Mr. SIMPSON replied that the China Merchants Company are outside the foreign Concession and cannot be taxed.

Mr. HYKES proposed and Mr. SIMPSON seconded that a donation of Tls. 25 be given to the Kiukiang Hospital, and that the Medical Officer's fee be Tls. 75 for the current year.—Carried unanimously.

Mr. D'ALMEIDA proposed and the Rev. PERE CICERI seconded a vote of thanks to the retiring Council.—Carried unanimously.

With a vote of thanks to Mr. King, for auditing the accounts, and to the Chairman, the proceedings terminated.

C. W. EVERARD.

H.B.M.'s Acting Consul, Chairman.

THE WHITE CROSS SOCIETY.

The White Cross movement may now be considered to be fairly started in the Settlement. Our readers will remember that on Thursday the 20th of January a well attended public meeting for men only was held in the Union Church under the presidency of General Kennedy, the Consul-General for the United States, who was strongly and representatively supported on the platform by Lieut. Elliott R.N., K. Kawakami, Esq., Japanese Consul, Rev. H. C. Hodges, M. A. Chaplain of the Cathedral, Rev. L. H. Gulick, M. D., of the American Bible Society, Rev. A. Williamson, L. L. D., of the Chinese Book and Tract Society. At that meeting Mr. Bamford, the Minister of the Church, gave an address on the Obligations of the White Cross, at the close of which about fifty of the gentlemen present gave in their names as enrolling themselves in the Society. Among this number both the Protestant and Roman Catholic branches of the Christian Church and the Jewish religion were represented—a fact sufficiently indicative of the freedom of the movement from sectarian limitations. Last Monday evening a meeting of the members of this newly formed Shanghai Branch of the White Cross Union was held in the room behind the Union Church at which almost all were present. Dr. Gulick was called to take the chair and gave an interesting address in his usual happy and genial manner. He passed in review the steps that had been taken in the forming of the local branch of the Society and dwelt at some length on the necessity of the platform being made as broad as possible. Many forms of faith, he said—the Christian, the Jewish, the Mohammedan—had their practical teaching on the subject of purity, and there was therefore no reason why in a place like this where so many different faiths were represented, we should not combine, irrespectively of our differences on other subjects, and work together for this end, encouraging each other in the maintenance of personal purity, and in the formation of a public opinion which shall condemn and discredit immorality in all its forms. As a minor matter under this head the doctor urged that in the election of officers of the Society the prominent places should be given to laymen in preference to clergymen, not that the latter were unwilling to take their share of the work that was to be done, but they were necessarily more or less identified with some distinctively marked-off class or section of thought and religious

action. Among the practical suggestions thrown out were that the physicians of the Settlement should be asked to give lectures on the laws of health and kindred subjects, which have so important a relation to the subject with which the Society is more immediately concerned, and that a supply of literature should be obtained from the Home Society to serve both as a stock for reference and for distribution as a means of making known the principles of the Union. At the close of Dr. Gulick's address those gentlemen who had come according to the invitation contained in Mr. Bamford's letter that appeared in Saturday's issue, sent in their names which brought the number of members up to fifty-eight. Dr. Williamson having made a few remarks, the meeting proceeded to the election of officers. Mr. J. Fryer was very heartily elected President. Mr. Bamford proposed Dr. Gulick as Vice-President, saying that he cordially endorsed what had just before been said by the doctor about the expediency of preferring laymen to clergymen, other things being equal, but that he thought the society ought to take personal qualifications into account as well as professional, and that it would be a great pity to lose the services of a man full of enthusiasm and go, simply because he was not a layman. The meeting seemed of the same opinion and unanimously elected Dr. Gulick as Vice-President. Messrs. J. W. John and T. E. Trueman were chosen as Secretary and Treasurer respectively and Messrs. A. Matheson, G. McIntosh and A. J. H. Moule as members of Committee. The Rev. Dr. Yates then proposed that Mr. Bamford's address at the previous meeting be printed, saying that he knew it would involve expense but that he was quite prepared to meet that himself. Mr. Bamford expressed doubts as to the wisdom of this, the meeting, however, accepting the doctor's generous offer and carrying the proposition, he yielded. A good many other questions were brought up most of which were referred to the Committee. With a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting, which had been throughout marked with great cordiality and earnestness, adjourned.

Report.

THE HONGKONG POST-MASTER GENERAL'S REPORT.

The following are the paragraphs in the Report, dated 1st January, referring to the proposed Chinese Post Office service:—

20. The state of several of our Postal Agencies, specially those of Amoy and Foochow, was taken into serious consideration by the Government on the earnest representations of this Department. It was felt that the existing condition of affairs could not be allowed to go on, and that, unsatisfactory as it might be for Hongkong to be saddled with the whole expense of improving these Agencies, improved they must be—or abolished. * The Estimates for this year would accordingly have embodied provision for a considerable increase of staff at Amoy, had not a proposal been made which promised an entirely new departure.

21. This was a proposal from Mr. Commissioner Kopsch, on behalf of the Chinese Government, to take over, as a step towards the establishment of a national Post Office, the Postal work carried on by this Government at eight of the Treaty Ports of China. The report of this Department on that proposal will be found in the Appendix.

* These remarks must not be taken as implying any reflection on the officers in charge of the Agencies in question, whose only fault was their inability to do impossibilities, or to be in two places at once.

22. Mr. Kopsch's scheme has of course raised much discussion, especially in Shanghai, where a public meeting was convened to consider the matter. The tone both of this meeting, and of the articles and correspondence in the newspapers, was most fair, reasonable, and moderate. Some of the objections raised possess much force, though only one has as yet been put forward which can be regarded as a real obstacle to the proposal.

23. How China may elect to develop her Postal system is not in any special way the affair of Hongkong, but a single remark on the subject may perhaps be allowable. To demand that so huge an Empire shall be covered with a network of courier services organised by the Imperial Government, before that Government may attempt the much more modest task of carrying on the small coast service at present conducted by this Colony, is, as one of the speakers at Shanghai graphically put it, like insisting that a boy shall not go near the water till he has learned to swim. Any successful postal system in China must begin from the coast, and with steamer communication. It may then possibly be pushed up the rivers as steamers are admitted to them, and extended to a few of the shorter land routes especially as railways are introduced. To make haste slowly should be the motto, and the avoidance of huge schemes, like a pestilence, the policy, of the Chinese Post Office of the immediate future.

24. Should the proposal of the Chinese not be accepted, it will be absolutely necessary to improve our Postal Agencies. They cannot be left as they are. On the other hand, no suggestion to open additional agencies at the expense of this Government should be entertained.

25. The time has perhaps arrived when something should be done to bring the Chinese correspondence transmitted to and from this Colony more under control. There can be no doubt that the revenue suffers serious loss from the smuggling of thousands of Chinese letters, not to Chinese ports where there is no national Post office to receive them, but to San Francisco, Australia, the Straits Settlements, and other places where efficient Post Offices exist. The subject is surrounded with difficulties, and the sweeping measures so often advocated, besides being ruinously expensive, would make the Postal Department here a nuisance and a hindrance to trade which would not be tolerated for a week. The function of a Post Office is to facilitate, not to hinder business. Proposals of a practical nature have, as you are aware, been submitted to the Government in this matter, and they are at present under consideration.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

A. LISTER
Postmaster General.

The Honourable F. STEWART Acting
Colonial Secretary, &c., &c., &c.

Amusements.

THE MARINE ENGINEERS' BALL.

The Engineers' Ball, as the dance given annually by the members of the Marine Engineers' Institute is popularly called, has long been an institution in Shanghai, and among a large section of our lady residents China New Year would hardly be recognised if it came without this party. Hitherto these dances have been held at the Temperance Hall, but this year the Engineers had so many subscribers and so many guests that a larger scene was demanded, and it was to the Masonic Hall that a long stream of carriages and jinnichas brought the happy throng on Tuesday night (25th). The clouds lowered all day, but no rain or snow fell, and no one therefore was kept away by the weather, against the worst of which all necessary preparations

had been made. An awning of mats protected the guests from the roadway to the door of the hall, the steps were carpeted, and the impromptu passage-way was lit by an arc-light, which burned throughout the night with undiminished brilliancy. The large hall was the ball-room with a well-stretched pinafore to dance on. The Masonic shields and emblems had been removed from the walls, and their places occupied by the house flags of the various steamer companies running to Shanghai, which, alternated with anchors, typifying the rests between the dances, and screw-propellers, suggesting the gyrations of the frequent waltz, made a very effective decoration. The gallery was draped with the national flags, conspicuous among them being the "seely worm" that recalls the imperial dragon. Perhaps the anchors were meant to symbolise the repose of the Chinese, and the screw-propellers the restlessness of the West; however that be, the excellence of the effect was undoubted. Mirrors, Japanese screens and plants made the dais a bower of calm delight for the eye and the tired dancer to rest on; and on one side of it M. Vela, with a selection of strings from the town-band, and a cornet, provided admirable music. The ball was full, for the hosts had been lavish with their invitations, and while the floor was crowded in the dances, the walls were fringed with spectators, and a compact body of old fogies looked on approvingly from the bottom of the hall, and wished themselves once again young and attractive. The opening quadrille and promenade began soon after nine, and the ball lasted until after three, and the dancers at any rate enjoyed themselves to the full. After the eighth dance supper began at small tables in the banquetting room; and went on by relays for the rest of the evening. It is needless to say that it was an excellent and sumptuous feast; the rule that prohibits intoxicating liquors at these entertainments was as usual strictly observed; and those of the guests who were seen stealing down stairs to the bar of the Masonic Club below and returning with well-sealed bottles in their hands, were probably only seeking fresh varieties of aerated water. The only drawback to the Masonic Hall as a ball room is the inadequate lighting. To show off the bright faces and smart frocks of the ladies, of which on Tuesday night there was a profusion, a flood of light is required, and the gas on Tuesday gave a very yellow and by no means brilliant illumination. It would be difficult to say how many nationalities sent their fair representatives to the ball, and it would be still more difficult to say who was the belle. It was an unqualified success, and the dances, of which we subjoin the programme, went off with indefatigable spirit.

1. Promenade, } ...Scotch Airs on Organ.
2. Quadrille } ...Les Brigands.
3. Waltz } ...Dolores.
4. Lancers } ...Guard of Honour.
5. Schottische } ...M. Vela.
6. Mazurka } ...Am Neckarstrande.
7. Waltz } ...Estudiantina.
8. Quadrille } ...La Fille de Mme. Angot.
9. H. Schottische } ...
10. Lancers } ...Mikado.
11. Waltz } ...Galop Prestissimo.
12. Quadrille } ...Lights o' London.
13. Polka } ...Hanky Panky.
14. Waltz } ...Les Sourires.
15. Lancers } ...Old Original.
16. H. Schottische } ...
17. Waltz } ...Venetia.
18. Lancers } ...Pirates of Penzance.
19. Waltz } ...See-Saw.
20. Polka } ...Les Salterelles.
21. Circassian Circle } ...

Correspondence.

THE WHITE CROSS.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

DEAR SIR,—Will you allow me a little space in reference to the above. At the meeting last Thursday a number of gentle-

men gave in their names as accepting the obligations and forming the membership of the White Cross Union and it was understood that a meeting of the newly formed Society should be called at an early date. But by an oversight no one was specially appointed to call the meeting. I have therefore ventured to so far assume the office of Secretary as to address a circular to all whose names were given in to me on Thursday inviting them to a meeting in the room behind the Union Church on Monday next at 9 p.m. As however in the collecting of a number of separate slips it is not impossible that some should have been lost, and as further it is certain that there are those who are ready to join us who were prevented from being present at the meeting on Thursday, I should like by your permission to say that the meeting on Monday will be open to all who either have already taken the obligations of the White Cross or come prepared to do so. The business to be transacted will be the election of officers, the discussion of the means to be adopted for the furtherance of the aims of the Union—this discussion to be introduced by the Rev. L. H. Gulick, M.D., and such other business as may be found to grow out of this.

It may be convenient to those intending to join the Union, and probably not without interest to the general public, if I here give the five obligations the taking of which constitutes a man member of the White Cross. They are as follows:—

- 1.—To treat all women with respect, and endeavour to protect them from wrong and degradation.
- 2.—To endeavour to put down all indecent language and coarse jest.
- 3.—To maintain the law of purity as equally binding upon men and women.
- 4.—To endeavour to spread these principles among my companions, and to try to help my young brothers.
- 5.—To use every possible means to fulfil the command, "Keep thyself pure."

I am, Sir,

Yours truly,

ALFRED J. BAMFORD.

The Manse, Shanghai,

28th Jan.

Inw Reports.

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, 18th Jan., 1887.

Before Sir R. T. RENNIE, Kt.,
Chief Justice.

T. M. WILLIAMS, Master, and Owners of the steamship *Paumben*, Appellants and Defendants, and A. CORDES & Co., Respondents and Plaintiffs.

Mr. WILKINSON for the appellants.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT for the respondents.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT on behalf of the respondents said the issues had been narrowed down to the points put by his learned friend. What had to be determined was whether this breakage was the result of negligence, or default in the management or navigation of the vessel within the terms of the Bill of Lading; and if not, whether it came within the exception "perils of the sea" so as to exempt the owners of the ship from liability. He admitted that the onus of proof lay upon the plaintiffs. In dealing with the questions of l.v involved in the Bill of Lading, he referred his Lordship to the case cited by Mr. Wilkinson namely *Philips v. Clarke* (26 Law Journal Com. Pleas 168). He also pointed out the distinction in the terms of the Bill of Lading in the case of *Hayn v. Culliford* referred to by his learned friend. In that case the exemption was from losses and damage, caused in the navigation of the ship, the word "management" being left out and there was also no evidence of the employment of a stevedore,

while in the present case they had evidence of a stavedore being employed at Antwerp, though not at Saigon. He also cited the case of *Goode v. London & S. Owners Association* (Law Report 6. C. P.).

His LORDSHIP—I would be inclined to hold that if the restowage was made for the purpose of altering the trim of the ship and that in consequence of that, the damage was caused, the exemption might apply. But if it was only to change the cargo, I think there would be a distinction, and the exemption might very properly be thrown over.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT resuming contended that "navigation" and "management" of the ship were alternative terms. In the case of the *Douro* Sir Robert Phillimore held that the contract between the parties was to deliver the goods in proper condition. In that case the exemptions in the Bill of Lading were "Act of God, the Queen's enemies, pirates, robbers, and mistakes of the Captain and officers in performing their duties," which was a wider term than "management and navigation" and would certainly cover stowage. He contended that if the cargo was badly stowed in the present case, it was not done in the navigation of the ship, for there was no proof that it was done to trim her. He quoted from Carver "On carriage of goods at sea" and said that the Consul at Tientsin very properly remarked that a captain should expect very heavy weather in the northern part of the China sea, and should, therefore take steps to stow his cargo against it. Mr. Wainwright then pointed out that the story of the Captain of the *Perle* did not corroborate the evidence of the defendants as to the alleged extraordinarily bad weather which the ship met, after which he drew attention to the statement of Captain Roberts that the cargo could have been stowed so that it would not have been effected by the rolling of the ship.

His LORDSHIP said that there was no evidence to show that the weather was extraordinarily bad.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT resuming his statement dwelt upon the fact that out of about 1,000 cases of glass in the after hold, only some twenty gave way, and the rest of the damage occurred in the main hold. This he contended proved that the cargo could have been stowed in such a way as to withstand the rolling. About 200 cases were transferred by the Captain's orders, it might be to trim the vessel, but where the cargo remained as it was stowed by the stavedore at Antwerp, it was only the few weaker cases which suffered.

His LORDSHIP remarked that if he was satisfied that the weather was not extraordinarily bad, it seemed almost to follow that there was bad stowage. But whether that bad stowage was the result of shifting the cargo to trim the ship, or not, was not clear. Either the stowage, as stowage, was bad, or the cargo was badly stowed to trim the ship, and he asked Mr. Wainwright for his views upon that point.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT read the Captain's evidence as to the shifting of the cargo at Saigon to fill up the gap left by the removal of other bulky cargo, but the Captain said nothing about trimming the ship. Mr. Wainwright argued that if the cargo was then properly restowed, it would be impossible to throw it out of place. After briefly reverting to the surveys of the cargo made by Messrs. O'Brien and Hurst by direction of the Captain, on the 21st October, and to that by Mr. James Henderson, eight days afterwards, at the instance of the Court, Mr. Wainwright contended that the evidence of the first two that a great many cases of glass were thrown out of tier, was very strong evidence of bad stowage. He emphasized Mr. Michie's observations on the discrepancies in the evidence of Messrs. O'Brien and Hurst, and he asked his Lordship to give them attention as Mr. Michie

as Assessor in such a case was really in the position of a puisne judge. Mr. Wainwright in conclusion referred to the throwing out of the cargo at Saigon where a stavedore was not employed to restow it; and to the evidence of Captain Roberts that ships' officers did not stow very well now a days. It was impossible to believe that if the cargo had been properly restowed, three hundred odd cases would have been broken in the fore hold. The reasonable care and skill mentioned by his learned friend, he (Mr. Wainwright) contended, meant efficient care, and if this was not exercised, the owners of the ship were liable for the damage. Even though it was a mistake for the Court below to hold that the onus of proof lay upon the defendants that did not affect the case. He asked his Lordship to confirm the judgment of the Tientsin Court.

Mr. WILKINSON in reply said that the force of the wind in the gale was given in the log book as 5, an unusually high wind, but still one that mariners might not unreasonably expect, in the Gulf of Pechili. He did not rely upon the fact of the wind being extraordinary, but upon the fact that the sea was extraordinary. It was spoken of by some of the witnesses as a tremendous sea and the second mate swore that he had never seen the like of it before. He called his Lordship's attention to a case which was decided in that Court, where the owners of a ship of which the deck cargo was thrown overboard in a gale, were held exempt from liability. The Court at Kanagawa had decided against the vessel on the ground that the gale which had been encountered was such a gale as was to be expected at the time of year. But on appeal, that decision was reversed. In the present case, it was no doubt possible that the cases could have been stowed so that it would be impossible for them to stir, but he contended that reasonable diligence for their safety had been used. The onus of proof of negligence lay with the plaintiffs, and he held that it had not been proved.

His LORDSHIP observed that it was impossible for the plaintiffs to get evidence as to what happened in the storm. Counsel's own witness only said he heard a crash.

Mr. WILKINSON resuming said it must have been a very unusual roll which jerked the cases out of their place. It was in evidence that the cargo was brought safely to Formosa, and it must have been after that the breakage occurred so that it was shown the cargo safely weathered the first blow. It was stipulated in the Bill of Lading that the ship should discharge, and take in cargo at way-ports. He contended that removing portions of the cargo to fill up the gap caused by the discharging of 400 tons at Saigon was clearly to trim the ship, which supposition the evidence of the second officer supported. He argued that how each set of cases was broken had to be proved by the other side. This they had failed to do, and they did not even know whether the cases carried forward from the after hold were broken or not. The learned counsel having replied to Mr. Wainwright's argument based on the decision in the case of *Hayne and Culliford*, said that in all the cases, except that before Mr. Justice Denman, the word "navigation" was held to include all the duties of the master and mariners from the starting of the vessel to the discharging of the cargo. If this was not the case, their Lordships Bramwell, Brett and Cotton who heard the appeal in the case of *Hayne and Culliford* (4 C.P.) would simply have agreed with Justice Denman.

His LORDSHIP said that if Lord Bramwell was of opinion that his brother Denman was wrong, he was not the man to mince matters, but would have said so plainly. His Lordship also thought that Justice Denman's decision was the latest on the point.

Mr. WILKINSON argued that the decision of their Lordships in the appeal case, in effect, overruled that of Justice Denman.

His LORDSHIP said there was another point upon which the learned counsel might enlighten him. Supposing he found that the Captain had the glass removed to trim the ship, but that he was careless in the way in which he had the glass put into the fore hold, what would the result of that be?

Mr. WILKINSON apprehended that in that case the removal would be *a fortiori* included under an act of navigation.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT—The removal would be an act of navigation, but the restowage would not be, otherwise if the Captain threw the cases into the hold, it would be an act of navigation.

His LORDSHIP was inclined to agree with Mr. Wainwright on the point.

Mr. WILKINSON contended that the word "management" covered the restowage, and asked his Lordship to decide that the owners were not responsible for negligence on the part of the Captain or crew in this respect.

Judgment was reserved.

29th January.

His LORDSHIP in giving judgment said:—This is an Appeal from H.M.'s Provincial Court at Tientsin. In the Court below the defendants, and appellants as Masters and owners of a steamer called the *Paumotu* were in effect held liable to the plaintiffs for damages to a certain number of cases of window glass shipped on board the *Paumotu* to the consignment of the plaintiffs, at Tientsin. The case was tried at Tientsin before the Consul assisted by two Assessors. Neither the pleadings nor the judgment are in a regular form, and the latter especially is out of order in as much as it only decides "that the plaintiffs are justified in refusing to take delivery of any cases which are not in good order and condition," and does not decree any payment to be made by the defendants to the plaintiffs. It appears, however, that the parties have agreed between themselves as to what amount shall be paid by the defendants to the plaintiffs in the event of the judgment of the Court below being upheld in principle, and counsel for the appellants and respondents have both agreed also that certain supplemental reasons and arguments in support of the judgment—furnished by the judge and one of the Assessors of the lower Court—shall be taken into consideration on the hearing of the appeal. The damage to the glass is admitted to have occurred on the outward voyage of the steamer between Saigon and Tien, and in the Court below the defendants contended that they were not liable for such damages by reason of the exemptions in the Bill of Lading under which it was shipped. Certain other defences were also raised, which have not however, been pressed on the appeal. The main ground upon which exemption from liability was claimed in the Court below was that of the damage having been caused by Perils of the Seas, but the Court below found against the appellants on that point and held in effect that the damage was attributable to negligent restowage of the cargo by the Master officers and crew at Saigon. It is now further contended for the appellants that they were not liable for such negligence in stowage (if there was any) by reason of the exemption in the Bill of Lading of "any act neglect or default whatsoever of Pilot, Master or crew in the management or navigation of the ship." I think it convenient to deal in the first instance with the finding of the Court below as to the Perils of the Seas. It is true, as urged by the learned counsel for the Appellants that the Court below appears to have been under the erroneous impression that the duty of exculpating themselves laid with the defendants. The Judge and his Assessors do not appear to

have been impressed with the doctrine of law that Breakage being one of the excepted risks in the Bill of Lading, and the damage in question having clearly arisen from Breakage, the onus of proving that such Breakage had been caused by the default of the defendants or their servants was shifted to the plaintiffs' shoulders, but looking at the case as a whole I agree with the Court below that there was no sufficient evidence to show that the sea, at the time the damage is supposed to have happened was "to use the Assessor's expression" of so "phenomenal a character as to have jerked the cargo from its place in the hold notwithstanding the greatest care in stowing." I am sufficiently satisfied that the true cause of the accident was imperfect stowage. It was argued for the appellants that even if this were so they were not liable if reasonable diligence and ordinary care had been used in regard to the stowage, and the cases of the "Catherine Chalmers," 32 L.T.N.S. 847 the "Ville de L'Orient" 2 L.T.N.S. 746 and *Orloff v. Brisall* L.R. 1 P.C. 231 were cited by the Crown Advocate in support of this proposition, but I do not think that they are in point. In the first two of these cases it was especially found that the cargo was either stowed "in an ordinary way" or that the stowage was "good and sufficient," whilst in *Orloff v. Brisall* the plaintiffs had themselves been aware of, and in fact approved the stowage. Here I think on the contrary, looking at the case with what the learned counsel for the respondents calls the "jury side of my mind," that the cargo in question after the restowage at Saigon was not stowed in the ordinary way or well and sufficiently, and the owners of it certainly had no share in the restowage. On this part of the case then I think the Court below was right. The learned Crown Advocate, however, then says that admitting the cargo to have been improperly and even negligently restowed by the Captain, officers or crew of the vessel whilst at Saigon and on the course of the voyage, the defendants would still be exempt from liability in respect thereof by reason of the exception in the Bill of Lading before referred to, and he quoted the case of the *Duero* L.R. 2 A. and E. 393 *Goud v. the L.M.O. Association* L.R. 6 C.P. 563. The *Warkworth* L.R. 9 C.P.D. 20 and *Hayn v. Culliford* L.R. 3 C.P.D. 410. There appears to be no doubt that a ship owner may, if he uses apt words, protect himself from the negligence of his servants. Thus in the case of the *Duero* where the Bill of Lading contained a clause exempting the owners of the ship from liability to make good loss from "negligence or default of Master and mariners or others performing these duties" it was held that the ship owners were protected from liability to make good damage to goods caused in the course of the voyage by reason of the careless stowage of the goods by the Master and crew, and many of the large steamship companies give Bills of Lading in a form which protects them from the consequences of damage or loss however it may be occasioned whether by the negligence of their servants or otherwise *Steel v. State Am. S.S. Co.* [L.R. 2 Appeal Cases 72] The question then that I have now to deal with is simply whether the exception of "any act neglect or default whatsoever of pilot Master or crew in the management or navigation of the ship" covers and applies to the case of the restowage of the cargo in question at Saigon. The learned Crown Advocate admitted that the words "management or navigation" are not so large as those of "performing their duties" in the *Duero* case and also that the judgment of Denman J. in the case of *Hayn v. Culliford* is somewhat against him, but he urged that in the present case the cargo in question was re-stowed at Saigon clearly for the purpose of retrimming the ship after 400 tons of cargo had been then discharged and that the

case was therefore a stronger one in some respects than that of the *Duero* and that that of *Hayn v. Culliford* is distinguishable on the facts, inasmuch as the stowage in question there was original stowage made by a stevedore at the port of shipment, whilst it was not very conclusive authority on this point as it was carried on appeal, and the Lords Justices although they upheld the judgment of Denman J. made certain observations which would seem to imply that they would not have done so had the negligence complained of been that of the Captain or crew. No case was cited on either side, nor have I been able to find one, in which it has been decided whether retrimming or restowage of cargo in the course of the voyage is or is not an act of management or navigation. The learned counsel for the Respondents very properly admitted that the evidence went to prove that the cargo in the present case actually was shifted at Saigon by the Officers and crew for the purpose of trimming the ship and that he could not contend that trimming the ship in the course of the voyage would not be an act of management or navigation within the meaning of the exception in the Bill of Lading, but he argued that there was a distinction to be drawn between the trimming of the ship and the re-stowage of the cargo. The learned counsel produced no authority in support of this argument, and I cannot agree with it. It appears to me to be impossible to draw a distinction between a shifting of the cargo for the purpose of retrimming the ship and a restowage of the cargo in the course of the retrimming. I am of opinion that a restowage of cargo in the course of the voyage for the purpose of retrimming the ship must be, at the least, incident to the management or navigation of the vessel, and consequently covered by the exemption in the Bill of Lading. Under these circumstances, I feel bound to hold that the owners of the ship are not liable for the damage which subsequently happened to the cargo so restowed in the course of the voyage, and the decision of the Court below will be accordingly reversed but, as the point upon which the appellants now succeed was not raised—and it is the only one on which they do succeed—in the Court below. I do not think I ought to give the appellant costs.

Shanghai, 29 Jan. 1887.

Before Sir R. T. RENNIE,
Chief Justice.

LONDON, BOMBAY AND MEDITERRANEAN
BANK LIMITED (in liquidation) v.
BENJAMIN DAVID BENJAMIN.

Mr. LATHEAM instructed by Mr. Henry Stead, Attorney to the official liquidator appeared for the plaintiff

Mr. WAINWRIGHT for the defendant.

His LORDSHIP in giving judgment said—This is a suit brought to recover the sum of Tls. 10,000.74, the equivalent of a certain sum in Rupees, directed to be paid by the defendant to the plaintiffs, under a judgment of the High Court of Bombay, pronounced on the 7th day of December, 1880. There is an alternative claim in the petition which is, by agreement of Counsel, to stand over until I have decided whether the judgment of the Bombay Court is binding upon the defendant or not. The facts of the case, so far as I have at present to deal with them, are clear enough, and may shortly be stated as follows:—The plaintiff Company was a Company registered under the Joint Stock Companies Act 1862, with its head office in London. Sometime in the year 1864 the defendant, a native of Bagdad, but then resident in Bombay signed, as it would seem, at Bombay, the memorandum of Association of the Company as a subscriber for some 200 shares. In 1866 the Company was ordered to be wound up, and in 1871 a Balance Order of the High Court of Chancery was made, whereby the defendant, amongst other contributories

of the Company, was ordered to pay the sum of £1,600 to the Official Liquidators of the Company. In 1867 the defendant left Bombay and came to China, where he has since remained, with the exception of a visit he made to Europe, going thence via the United States of America and returning via India, concerning which no question appears to arise. In 1876 a suit was instituted in Bombay by the Liquidators against the defendant in respect to the calls due under the Balance Order, and in that suit the defendant was described as being "at present an assistant in the office of Messrs. Sassoon & Co., Calcutta." The summons of plaint was sent to the defendant by post, addressed to him at Canton, and was unquestionably received by him in due time at Shanghai or elsewhere in China. Judgment in the suit, the defendant not appearing, was given against him by the High Court of Bombay in 1880, and is the judgment now sued upon. By the pleadings, and in the course of the hearing, many points were raised in support of the defendant's contention that he is not bound by the judgment. It was suggested that the judgment itself and the Judge's notes of the hearing were not sufficiently proved. It was urged that the misdescription of the defendant in the pleadings had misled the Court; that the defendant had no, or at any rate, not sufficient notice of the proceedings, and generally that the High Court of Bombay had no jurisdiction over the defendant. I am, however, satisfied that the judgment and the Judge's notes were sufficiently proved, that the defendant, whether misdescribed or not, clearly had sufficient notice of the proceedings, and it seems to be wholly immaterial whether the defendant was or was not a British subject at the time when he was resident in Bombay. I consequently think that the only question which entails any difficulty in the case is whether the High Court of Bombay had or had not jurisdiction in the matter. There cannot be any doubt that according to English law a defendant who is sued upon a foreign or colonial judgment is entitled to prove, if he can, that the Court pronouncing that judgment acted without jurisdiction, and that if he succeed in giving such proof he will not be bound by the judgment. In the case of *Roussillon v. Roussillon* (L.R. 14, Ch. Div.) which is, I think, almost if not quite, the latest case of importance in which the principles upon which our Courts enforce the judgments of foreign courts were discussed, Mr. Justice (now Lord Justice) Fry sums up the law as follows: What are the circumstances which have been held to impose upon the defendant the duty of obeying the decision of a foreign court? Having regard to the cases of *Schibbeby v. Watenholtz* (L.R.Q.B. 155) and to *Copin v. Anderson* (L.R. 9 Ex. 345) they may, I think, be stated thus. "The Courts of this country consider the defendant bound where he is a subject of a foreign country, in which the judgment has been obtained; where he was resident in the foreign country when the action began; where the defendant in the character of plaintiff has selected the Forum in which he was afterwards sued; when he has voluntarily appeared; where he has contracted to submit himself to the Forum in which the Judgment was obtained, and possibly if *Bequet v. Macarty* (2 B. & A. 951) is right; where the defendant has real estate within the foreign jurisdiction in respect of which the cause of action arose whilst he was within that jurisdiction." Here the defendant denies that his case falls within any one of the classes specified by Mr. Justice Fry, but it is urged by the plaintiffs that the cause of action did arise at Bombay by reason of the defendant having there signed the Memorandum of Association of the plaintiff Company, and that in point of law he then contracted to submit himself to the jurisdiction of the Bombay Court. The learned

Counsel for the plaintiff admitted that if the Court should decide in favour of his client upon this issue, it would, in effect, be going further than any English Court has hitherto gone; but he relied greatly upon some observations made by Lord Blackburn in the case of *Schibbasy v. Westenholz*. There Lord Blackburn, alluding to the class of cases in which English Courts will uphold Foreign judgments, said: "If at the time when the obligation was contracted the defendants were within the Foreign country but left it before the suit was instituted we should be inclined to think the laws of that country bound them although before finally deciding we should like to have the question argued." Referring to these remarks, however, Fry, J., in the case of *Roussillon v. Roussillon* asked, "Does not Lord Blackburn refer there to a casual unexpected leaving of the Foreign country by a person who was permanently resident there at the time the contract was entered into?" and further on in the same case the same learned Judge said, "The place where the contract is to be performed is a very material circumstance," and it appears to me that these observations have some bearings on the applicability of Lord Blackburn's dictum to the present case. I also find that considerable light is thrown upon the matter by the case of the *London, Bombay and Mediterranean Bank* against one *Lywalla*, decided by the High Court of Bombay itself in the year 1885 and cited by the plaintiff's Counsel. That was a suit brought by the same plaintiffs for the recovery also of certain calls due from the then defendant as a contributory under another *B-lance* Order of the High Court of Justice in England in respect of the winding up of the same Company, and Mr. Justice Scott in delivering judgment said: "The present suit is equivalent to a suit upon a foreign judgment as appears from the case of the *London, Bombay and Mediterranean Bank v. Hormusjee Pestonjee*, [8 Bombay High Court Reports. O. C. J. 200] which is an authority binding upon me. In that case it was laid down that the Courts in India must treat a *Call Order* made by the Court in Chancery upon a contributory of a Company registered in England as a foreign judgment and it is clear that in a suit upon a foreign judgment a defendant cannot be permitted to urge in defence what he had an opportunity of pleading in the foreign Court. It no doubt appears a hardship upon the defendant that he should be required to go to the trouble and expense of appearing before a Court in England and putting forward his defence there. That, however, is the result of his having joined an English Company subject to the jurisdiction of the English Courts. The local law and the Forum of the Company's head office were accepted by the defendant on becoming a shareholder. The apparent hardship is not a matter which can affect the decision of these cases." Applying these observations, which I may say appear to me to be perfectly sound, to the present case, it seems to be quite clear that the defendant Benjamin, by signing the Memorandum of Association of the plaintiff Company at Bombay, submitted himself *qua* the affairs of the Company, not to the jurisdiction of the High Court of Bombay, but to that of the High Court of Chancery in England, in respect of a contract to be performed in England, and the execution of which was to be required, if at all in an English Court. I think it equally clear that all the Bombay Court could have intended to do, by its judgment now under consideration was to enforce against the defendant whom either by reason of his misdescription in the proceedings, or from some other cause it erroneously supposed to be actually within its jurisdiction the *Balance Order* of the High Court of Chancery and that its assumed jurisdiction was not, and could not properly have been, based upon any as-

sumption of the defendant having contracted himself within the Forum of the Indian Courts. I think then that Lord Blackburn's expression of opinion in *Schibbasy v. Westenholz* cannot be applicable to the present case, and on the whole I am of opinion that the judgment sued upon is not binding upon the defendant and cannot be enforced against him by this Court.

Miscellaneous.

THE BLESSING OF A CONCEALED FUTURE.

Heaven from all players hides the book of fate
All but the hand prescribed—perchance a "straight"—
From us is hid what fate's marked out before,
Or, who could stand the "straddle" and the "draw."
The man you're "raising" dooms to drop to-day
Knew he your hand, "pat sequence" would he play?
Pleased to the last he ventures at the raise
And bets and loses on his "kings and trays."
Oh, blindness to the future kindly sent
That keeps men playing till the coin's all spent,
Providence, watching all with equal eye,
Sees "four flush" busted, leaving "seven high,"
Dollars, or hundreds, chucked into the pool,
And now a good man bust, and now a fool.
Hope humbly then, and, when you have to draw,
Wait for your turn, and pray for "full" or "four,"
What future bliss awaits, you cannot know,
But should you not improve, then out you go,
The Gambler, beaten, hopes to make up still,
He seldom does, but always hopes he will.

RUSSIA IN COREA.

The *Choya Shimbun* of the 13th January had the following:—It is now reported that the Russian Government, which has long had its eyes on Port Lazareff, has again made a demand to Corea for a lease of the place, and we are also told that China is exerting every influence to thwart the movements of the great northern Power. Should this be true, China has now to deal with a crisis of the highest importance, in the light of which the Nagasaki affair must fade into the most petty insignificance. As China will find, therefore, little time to bestow attention on the latter incident, the immediate consequences of Russia's latest move may really be in some sense beneficial; but from a general point of view there can be no denying that the position of affairs is marked with the gravest significance to the whole East. On the coast of the Kankio-do in Corea there is a large bay, in which are the two harbours of Gensan and Port Lazareff, situated on opposite sides. Not far from this bay, and in the middle of the narrowest part of the peninsula, is the important town of Heijo. It is easy to understand that, if this town falls into the hands of an enemy, Corea will be severed in two; and as Port Lazareff is practically the gate to this city, the Korean Government are anxious to have it well protected, to which end there is stationed as Port Lazareff a military garrison. Port Lazareff is, in short, to Heijo, what Kobe and Osaka are to Kyoto. It is natural, therefore, that Russia should cast covetous glances at Port Lazareff. Her

real object in demanding the use of this port is not really to invade Corea, but rather to make the peninsula a basis of her long contemplated operations against China. If the Russian demand is now complied with, Russian troops may be marched toward the North-eastern provinces of the Middle Kingdom without fear of molestation from the southern coast of Corea. Assuming that this news is correct, China must move heaven and earth to prevent her northern antagonist from gaining a footing at Port Lazareff. It is evident that at this juncture Japan might, if she were inimical to Chinese interests, make China's position a much more difficult one; if we were desirous of war with our western neighbour surely now is the opportunity. But the Japanese are actuated by no motives hostile to China; on the other hand, they wish to secure the maintenance of the peace of the East by a continuance of friendly relations with the Middle Kingdom. Events, however, may make it impossible for this country to remain quiet while Port Lazareff is in danger of being occupied by Russia, for the safety of China and Corea is menaced. On the whole, it is plain that our statesmen are now called on to exercise their best powers of foresight.—*Japan Mail Translation.*

AN ADVENTURE IN THE ICE AT TAKU.

The foreign population of Taku were thrown into a state of great alarm last week by the adventures of a gentleman among the ice. A steamer was reported one day outside the bay, and the chance for a reluctantly frozen-up resident to escape from the imprisonment, by sea, was so tempting that every danger was incurred in order to get on board, and go wherever the steamer happened to be going. All the boats which might have been available for such a service had been long since firmly enclosed in their mud docks, and no steam-launch or tug could be coaxed out of her winter retreat. The elderly naval men about the place remonstrated against the attempt much as the Dundee whaler did with Sir John Franklin, whom he met in Baffin's Bay, and with like effect.*

They, however, lent a boat and told off a stalwart crew. The first essay to reach the steamer was promising. After feeling their way through the floating fields of ice for several hours, the sounding showed that the boat had passed outside the bar; but just then a thick fog settled down over them, nothing could be seen, and by the mercy of Providence the exertions of the boatmen were successful in bringing them safely back to Taku. Next day a gale from the northwest made all movement on the water impossible. The day after was fine but cold, the ice had increased in quantity, the spring tides had made, and the risks were indefinitely increased. The daring traveller tried again. The hardy pilots named various large sums which would not tempt them to such an enterprise, but the amounts are not important, seeing the theory was that the man would be drowned, and Jones could no more enjoy his hypothetical million than Davis his hundred thousand. Captain Watts having done what eloquence could do to dissuade the traveller ended by lend-

*The allusion is to the following salutation which appeared in one of the newspapers of the day:—

"Whither sail ye, Sir John Franklin?"

Cried a whaler in Baffin's bay.

"To see if between the Pole and the Land I may find a broad sea way."

"I charge you back, Sir John Franklin,

As you would live and thrive;

For between the Land and the frozen Pole

No man may sail alive."

But lightly laughed the stout Sir John,

And said unto his men:

"Half England is wrong if he is right;

Bear up to the Westward, then."

ing his gig, a wholesome craft, bluff and buoyant, with five picked men to pull. These men are spoken off, in terms of the highest praise by their passenger, of which, however, more anon. The boat left the shore about 10 a.m. on Thursday, the 6th, came back, and made a second start at 1 p.m. Soon she encountered fixed ice; but, seeing open water beyond, the hardy boatmen carried the gig across the ice and dropped her into the outer water. Then they struggled on, dodging the floating ice carried about by wind and tide and forming into fantastic hummocks most picturesque to see. After four hours of this work the boat was once more got outside the bar, but it was only to encounter a vast field of ice, probably moving, and apparently two miles wide. Beyond this was seen dimly the smoke of a steamer, and a close observation made it evident that she was in motion outwards, either by her own power, or pressed by the irresistible mass of ice. The situation was desperate. The intention had been to carry boat and men on to the nearest port if they caught the steamer, but now the prospect of bringing that frail craft back to land was one to make the boldest quail. Yet the Taku boatmen bent lustily and if not cheerfully, at least calmly to their task. Never a word of reproach or lamentation; no breath to spare for such. But by sheer strength of muscle and quickness of eye the driving floe was fended off, and the boat preserved from being cracked like an egg shell. From the forts the departure of the vessel was observed, and the fate of the boat became an object of painful interest to the inhabitants of Taku. Not only the foreigners there but also the relatives of the boatmen crowded the forts and look-out places, straining their eyes watching the black

speck among the ice till night-fall, when nothing more of the boat could be seen. Then the anxiety became acute, and we are told some rather bad quarters of an hour were experienced by certain husbands from their wives, whose womanly hearts were melted with pity for the unfortunates among the ice. An anxious night indeed for Pilot Town, but a fearful time for those in the boat. No food since morning; incessant and excessive muscular exertion the whole day and into the night; three kinds of death staring them in the face at the same time,—by drowning, by freezing, and by starvation,—the crew of the captain's gig might be excused if they did not feel great exuberance of spirits. But they did not murmur; and even when at last they came to what they thought was the end of all their exertions, and it seemed hopeless to extricate their boat from the angry jaws of the ice-king, they said very quietly, "Sir, we must die here." They did not falter, nor lose their heads, nor relax in their efforts, which were eventually crowned with success. It is interesting to know that this picked crew consisted of men who belong to the religious sect which is so numerous in Northern China, men of conscience, of good lives, who fear God, but seem to have no other fear. They have been sometimes called Chinese puritans. By their deeds we know them, whatever be their label, for the salt of the earth; and there is hope for a country which possesses a hundred thousand of such men.

The traveller who had sat with patience and heroism in that open boat a day and a night, on the coldest night yet registered this winter, when the thermometer in Tientsin stood at 8° Fahr., was not an object of envy to any living soul. Yet in the supreme hour of peril he could not

help watching with interest and admiration this horse-play of the forces of nature. The heaving and grinding of the icebergs, as they were hurled against each other and whirled round and round, leaping on each other's backs as they were impelled by wind or current, and making a dazzling display in the bright moonlight, made a grand spectacle with not a soul save this belated traveller to witness it.

The crisis of all came at midnight, when the boat was brought up against a field of ice which seemed to have no motion in it, and the interesting question then was to know whether it was attached to solid earth or not. The problem was solved favourably, but not a moment too soon, for just about midnight, the north wind piped all hands on deck and soon rose to a gale, shrieking and moaning and whistling among the jagged edges of ice, sending the icebergs shooting high in the air, over obstacles, and with appalling noises piling it up in heaps which formed small icebergs. Although miles from land, being on the tail of the north bank, the gale brought clouds of familiar but unwelcome dust, which added nothing to the comforts of the night. But something must be set down to the credit of the wind; it kept back the flood tide which would probably have proved fatal to the boat. Attempts to progress on the surface of the ice had to be abandoned owing to the inequalities of the slippery surface, and the worn-out toilers were fain to rest in the boat till 4 a.m. on Friday. Labour was then resumed, some idea having been obtained of their whereabouts, and by a fresh series of struggles lasting some four hours more, the party emerged from danger, and were observed by the anxious watchers on shore coming into Taku, to the great joy of all.—Chinese Times.

OPIMUM.—RETURN FOR WEEK ENDING 22ND JANUARY, 1887.

IMPORTED	MALWA.		PATNA.		BENARAS.		PERSIAN.	
	Cheats.	Pis.	Cheats.	Pis.	Cheats.	Pis.	Cheats.	Pis.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	926½	926.50	201	241.20	95	114.00	27	27.00
Returned from shore on board R. Vessels	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed	11	11.00	"	"	"	"	"	"
Landed direct	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Total	937½	937.50	201	241.20	95	114.00	27	27.00
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption	467½	467.50	1,113	1,336.60	415	496.00	64	64.00

RE-EXPORTED from board Receiving Vessels:—

Description.	Chinking.		Wuhu.		Kiukiang.		Hankow.		Chefoo.		Tientsin.		Newchwang.		Ningpo.		Wenchow.		Focchow.		Swatow.		Total.	
	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.
Malwa	531	531.00	172	172.00	60	60.00	189	189.00	"	"	"	"	"	"	824	824.50	"	"	"	"	11	13.20	13	15.60
Patna	2	2.40	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3	2.40	"	"	"	"	1	1.20	3	3.60
Benares	1	1.00	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	1.00
Persian	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Turkey	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Total	534	534.40	172	172.00	60	60.00	189	189.00	"	"	"	"	"	"	824	824.90	"	"	"	"	12	14.40	1801	1804.70

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 1st February, 1887.

PIECE GOODS.—The holidays are over and gone, and dealers, sated with their festivities, are now slowly sobering down to the more ordinary duties of daily life. But they have had a royal time this year, their enjoyments, their abandon—if we may so express it—being in ratio with the balances they could own up to after settling. Those—very fair at the worst—are in some instances very handsome—£10,000—£12,000—and even higher having been named to us as the individual profits of a few of the leading hong. The Bankers, too, have done well, remarkably well according to report, and, as a consequence, forty-five banks reopened their doors on the first business day of the year—28th ultimo,— whilst fully a dozen more gave out that they were only waiting for an auspicious—a "good" day to follow suit. And, as from our every dependency advices of an equally favourable settling time are expected, our local denizens would have entered upon this new year with much hope and confidence saving for one thing, which proves the rule that there is no happiness without its alloy. The weather has been the crook in their lot. It has not been genuine New Year weather, bright and dry, or even better still, snowy. It has been very miserable throughout. Yet, much snow has fallen in the Ningpo districts and in the delta of the Yangtze, from Chinking to beyond Hankow, and this it is philosophically held will more than counteract the "bad joss" of our own region. "Hope springs eternal."

Auctions.—The following table of the auction business of 1886 may prove interesting to the Trade:—

TABLE (COMPARATIVE)—AUCTION SALES 1886, COMPARED WITH THE TOTAL DELIVERIES OF THE YEAR.

In rounds numbers.			Sales against Deliveries.		In round numbers.			Sales against Deliveries.	
GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs. pcs.	\$49,200		1,318,700	5,583,200	DRILLS—English	pcs.	47,330	327,100	
6-lbs. "	81,200				American	"	nil	617,700	
7 " "	110,400				JEANS—English	"	24,900	133,800	
9 " "	6,300				SHEETINGS—English	"	16,900	275,700	
33/11½-lbs. "	247,800				American	"	nil	1,480,300	
12-lbs. "	23,600		396,300 1,551,500		TURKEY REDS	"	63,100	326,400	
WHITE SHIRTINGS—56-read "	2,000				VELVETS	"	12,400	42,300	
64 " "	198,600				VELVETEENS	"	3,600	13,400	
72 " "	195,700		154,300 1,390,500		COTTON YARN	pls.	443	149,700	
T-CROTCHES—6-lbs. "	8,000				CABLETS	pcs.	84,100	112,000	
7 " "	146,300				LONG EELS	"	29,440	83,500	
8 " 36-in. "	56,900		56,900 138,000		LASTINGS	"	33,300	120,700	
					SPANISH STRIPES	"	34,400	45,600	

These auction figures present a smaller total of Cotton textiles than was the case in 1885, but they stand pretty nearly in the same relation to the total deliveries as the figures did then, whilst in Woollens they exhibit a slight increase.

On 28th ultimo, and despite the unfavourable weather, a few of the native brokers and hongmen made their appearance again in the more aristocratic quarters of the Settlement. Their principal object was the customary "Chin Chin." But, by way of earnest, they put their hands to some trifling contracts also. Moreover, they tendered some red bank orders in payment of goods for Ningpo and up-river shipment; and a good augury is this same for the foreign merchant, seeing that clearances so soon after New Year favours the inferences that markets in the interior must be bare, and that prompts will be duly met when business has been fairly resumed.

Of sales effected during the interval since date of our last report—18th ultimo—the auctions have to be credited with the larger portion by far, and, the circumstances duly considered, it is not a little surprising that rates at those have been so well maintained. They are slightly lower than they were when last we wrote, but on the other hand no decline nor sign of decline is yet visible in private; and now that Exchange on England has distinctly receded and the home markets for both Cotton and Woollen fabrics have as distinctly advanced, we ought—a *fortiori*, as the lawyers have it—to see a rise in prices here. But in China everything seems to go by "rule of contrary."

A moderate business (say 6,000 pieces) has been done in 64-reed *White Shirtings* at the rates current before the holidays; viz., £1.53 for *Wild Boar*, £1.60 for *Red Bear*, &c., and some 15,000 pieces of 8½-lb. and 1,250 pieces 9½-lb. *Grey Shirtings* are reported to have changed ownership, also at or about pre-holiday prices—£1.38 for *Green Stag Head*, £1.46½ for *Silver Sycee*, £1.52½ for *Blue Goose*, £1.55 for *Blue Anchor*, £1.57 for *Red Tea Caddy*, £1.57 and £1.65 for *Blue Butterfly* Nos. 2 and 1, and so on in the lighter weight, and £1.97 for *Unicorn* in the heavier, but otherwise in Cotton textiles there is very little in the private trade of the past fortnight that calls for special note to-day. A couple of thousand pieces or so of 7-lb. *T-Cloths* (*Man and Fish* selling at £1.05 and *Red Dragon* at £1.19) and 1,750 pieces of *Bombay* 6-lb. *Yellow Lion* at £1.06 together with 250 pieces fine 8-lb. at £1.60, form the sum of the sales in this import which have transpired. A few *English Drills* have been taken, simply to fill retail requirements, at £2.30 for *John Bull* and £2.45 for *Beaver*, and a kindred business has been done in fine *English Sheetings* at £2.31/45 per piece. But in *Fancy Cottons* the only transactions recorded are 500 pieces 4-lb. and 500 pieces 4½-lb. *Green Fisherman* and 250 pieces 3½-lb. *Gold Dragon*, *Turkey Red T-Cloths* at £1.70, £1.80 and £1.55 per piece respectively.

Woollens.—*Scarlet Long Ells* have been wanted and dealt in to extent of about 1,400 pieces, at £4.75 for new chop, £4.82 for *Dove*, £4.87/8½ for *V* and £4.87/88 for *U.U.*, and common *Camlets* have been asked for, but at a decline of nearly 1% on former prices to which holders are not disposed to accede. A very large business in these two items has been done in Hongkong. Small sales of 4½ and 5-reed *Black Lastings* have been made at £7.00 and £7.35 per piece, but beyond recording a stronger feeling in the market for *Spanish Stripes* (which has collapsed to-day) there is nothing further for us to chronicle under this heading for to-morrow's homeward mail.

It is not expected that markets will return to their normal state of alternate hope and disappointment for some days yet, not indeed until we have heard from the outports—head-quarters—of the resumption of business after the holidays.

Metals.—From Mr. Bielfeld's report:—Business, which has been interrupted by the intervening Chinese New Year holidays, has been seasonably quiet, and although natives are as yet acting with great reserve, there is more confidence felt in the future of many articles of import. Reports about the native trade during the last twelve months are very satisfactory. Several new native Banks are starting, and the general impression is that we shall have a good spring trade. **LEAD.**—A better feeling has prevailed for the article and the market closes firm at quotations. Settlements during the last fortnight are:—200 tons L.B. to arrive at £4.12½, 100 tons L.B. to arrive at £4.15, 100 tons L.B. to arrive at £4.16, 125 tons L.B. spot at £4.15. **NAILROD IRON.**—The market has hardened, and holders evidently regard the future with some confidence. The approaching spring season, combined with higher prices at home, ought to go a long way towards backing up owners in their endeavour to raise present values. Quotations are fully 5 caudarens better, all round. 2,000 bundles *Soliers* were placed at £1.60. **BAR IRON.**—No settlements of any consequence have transpired, but prices are well maintained. *St-flordshire* is in small supply, and good assortments would meet with a ready market. **PIG IRON.**—Continues in demand at low prices. **OLD IRON.**—At auction 1,400 piculs Scrap Iron were sold at £1.15½, 400 piculs Boiler Plates at £1.33, and 850 piculs Horseshoes at £1.44½. Boiler Tubes have been done, to arrive, at £1 per picul and Horseshoes at £1.51. Of nearly all descriptions considerable orders are reported to have been booked, but particulars have, of course, not transpired. **TINPLATES.**—Small parcels of I. C. Coke have been settled to arrive at £3.70, and spot at £3.75. Decorated are dull and inanimate. **STEEL.**—Orders sent home some time ago for some 2,000 boxes special assortments have been executed at £2.70, but prices asked by Importers now are considerably higher. **SPELTER.**—Small parcels of W.H., to arrive, are reported settled at £4.60 a £4.70 **STRAITS TIN.**—Business under this heading has scarcely commenced. Rates are, however, reported to be fairly well maintained. **COPPER AND YELLOW METAL SHEATHING.**—There are rumours of large contracts for both Copper and Yellow Metal Sheathing, but no sales of spot have been made, excepting an auction sale of some old ship's metal, at £8 per picul, exclusive of duty. **JAPAN COPPER.**—There is only a moderate inquiry at nominally flat figures. An auction of 200 piculs is advertised for this afternoon. **IRON WIRE.**—Remains dull, and natives abstain entirely from purchases, being well stocked with most dimensions. **QUICKSILVER.**—Continues to sell in a jobbing way only. Rates have dropped about £3.00 per picul. £61 is the quotation. **CORRUGATED AND GALVANIZED IRON.**—No change to advise. **ZINC SHEATHING.**—Is in some demand at £5.75 to 6.50. The *Thames* brought 40 cases, settled at £5.75. **GERMAN SILVER.**—No sales have transpired.

Miscellaneous.—From Mr. Bielfeld's report:—**MATCHES** are without any new feature. 50 cases *Vienna* have been sold at £16.10. The demand recently existing for *Safeties* and *Paraffins* has in a great measure subsided and no sales have been made. **SOAP.**—Unchanged; business very moderate only. **WINDOW GLASS.**—No sales whatever are reported. There is some demand springing up for coloured glass, of which stocks have been very small of late. **NEEDLES.**—A few small sales at last quotations form the total of the last two weeks' transactions. **DYES AND COLOURS.**—There has been some inquiry which has however no claim to any but very moderate pretensions. Sales have been insignificant, viz.:—5,000 tins ea. 8 oz. *Violet*, *Dog chop*, at 33 cands., 4,000 bottles ea. 2 oz. *Violet*, *Horse chop*, at 8½ cands., 5,000 tins ea. 8 oz. *Scarlet*, *Soldier chop*, at 14 cands., 10,000 bottles ea. 2 oz. *Scarlet*, *Various chops*, at 6 a 6½ cands., 4,000 tins ea. 8 oz. *Blue*, *Various chops*, at 16 cands., 2,000 tins ea. 8 oz. *Magenta*, *Eagle chop*, at 5½ cands.

Kerosene Oil.—From Mr. Bielfeld's report:—There has been a small business doing among natives at £1.16½ to £1.17, for prompt delivery. The damaged cargo ex *Lennie Burrill* and *Hagurston* was sold at auction as follows:—About 35,000 cases at £1.00 to £1.05, about 30,000 cases at £0.77 to £0.89, about 5,300 cases at £0.66, about 1,250 cases at £0.75, about 1,140 cases at £2.00 for the lot, about 1,100 Chinese oil baskets at £1 to £3.50 per basket. The *Colchester* arrived with 51,000 cases *Devos*' on the 29th ult.

Opium.—Closing quotations:—*Malwa*, new, at £378; old, at £398; *Patna*, new, at £395; *Benares*, new, at £380.

EXPORT.

Silk.—From Messrs. Cromie & Burkill's circular of 1st February. London telegrams quote the Silk Market quiet, but steady.

RAW SILKS.—Since the date of our last report a fortnight ago, there has been little or no business doing, and, although exchange has weakened, the best offer this week has been on a basis of £400 for chop No. 4 *Tatlee*, against £410 wanted by the Silkmens.

A few sales of *Hangchows* have changed hands at £332½ for *Blue Stork chop*, a parcel or two of *Szechong Yellow Silk* has been placed at £162½ a 165, and some *Fooyungs* at £218½ per picul.

Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, from the 18th to the 31st January are about 400 bales of *White Silk*, 65 piculs of *Yellow Silk* and 520 piculs of *Wild Silks*.

RE-REELS.—Shipments since the 18th ultimo are 235 bales, and close upon 150 bales have been settled for the next American Mail, prices closing steady and unchanged.

WILD SILKS.—No business.

WASTE SILKS.—Nothing doing.

SHANTUNG PONGREES.—A sale of 1,000 pieces has been made at £1.25 for common quality.

Purchases include:—**HANGCHOW TSATLEE.**—*Blue Stork* at £332½. **YELLOW SILK.**—*Fooyung* at £220, *Szechong* at £165. **RE-REELLED TSATLEE.**—Best chop at £500, Market III at £375.

	1886-87.	1885-86.	1884-85.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
Settlements for this mail †	about 750	500	500	700	500	1,000 bales.
" for the season †	47,250	47,000	50,000	44,000	43,000	43,000 "
Stock	8,750	7,000	6,000	4,000	21,000	16,500 "
Total Arrivals	56,000	54,000	56,000	48,000	64,000	59,500 "

† Exclusive of purchases for re-sale on this market.

	*England.	*France, &c.	Total Europe.	America.	India & Egypt.	Coast & Straits.	Grand Total.
Export White Silk	3,333	27,671	31,004	4,236	45	382	35,667 bales.
" Yellow "	16	4,083	4,099	14	803	493	5,409 "
" Wild "	210	5,582	5,792	24	...	45	5,861 "
	3,559	37,336	40,895	4,274	848	920	46,937 "

Against in 1885-86	8,337	28,805	37,142	5,799	2,276	1,130	46,347 "
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" 1884-85	7,993	33,975	41,968	3,948	2,389	895	49,200 bales.
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* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.

Also 3,111 piculs Old Silk Wadding to London.
" 61 " " to Marseilles.

Tea.—**BLACK.**—There has been no business transacted.

STOCK.—4,419 half-chests against 203 half-chests in 1885-1886.

GREEN.—The market has been reopened, but the business transacted has been very limited, settlements only amounting to 141 half-chests Moyune at £23, and 496 half-chests Teenkai at £19½ per picul, showing about previous rates.

STOCK.—10,590 half-chests against 13,815 half-chests in 1885-86.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM SHANGHAI AND YANGTZE PORTS.

From commencement of season to date:

	1886-87.			1885-86.		
	Black.	Green.	Total.	Black.	Green.	Total.
To Great Britain ...	64,707,587	6,875,417	71,583,004 lbs.	66,505,044	10,605,846	77,110,890 lbs.
Russia direct.....	11,616,324		11,616,324 ..	8,118,272		8,118,272 ..
United States ...	3,377,851	14,928,306	18,306,151 ..	2,880,064	15,284,608	18,164,672 ..

Shares.—The feature of the week has been the sudden decline in Hongkong and Shanghai Bank shares, followed by a partial recovery. Shares have been sold at 154 per cent premium, 153, 150 for 31st March, 144, 145 for 31st March and for 28th instant, 143, 144 and they are now in demand at 145; all at exchange 73. Shanghai Tugboats have changed hands at £87½ and 90; Shanghai and Hongkew Wharfs at £170 and 168; Pootung Wharfs at £110, 112, 114 for 31st March and for 28th February, and 116 for 31st March. Water-works have been sold at £28, exchange 4s. 7½d.; and Hall & Holtz shares at £26.

Exchange.—Business has been very small, except in Rupees for which there has been a fair demand. Native interest is one mace five=5½ per cent per annum. Bar Silver was quoted at 47d. in London yesterday.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.

(From Messrs. Morris & Fergusson's Weekly Circular.)

	ON LONDON.								FRANCE.		HONGKONG.	INDIA.
	T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Docty. 4 m's.		Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do.			Rupees; T. transfers.
	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.		
Thursday, 27th.....	4.7½	4.7½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.9	4.9	6.03/6.06	6.03/6.06	28	305½
Friday, 28th	4.7½	4.7½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.9	6.03/6.06	6.03/6.06	28	305
Saturday, 29th	4.7½	4.7½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	6.02/6.05	6.02/6.05	28	305
Monday, 31st	4.7½	4.7½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	5.99/6.02	6.00/6.03	28	306
Tuesday, 1st Feb...	4.7½	4.7½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	5.99/6.02	5.99/6.02	28	306
Wednesday, 2nd ...	4.7½	4.7½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	4.8½	5.99/6.02	5.99/6.02	28	306

AUCTION SALES.

COTTON GOODS.

Gray Shirtings.—8½-lbs.—Total 26,010 pieces.

At E-wo, on 19th ultimo, 2,400 pieces; at £1.16½/17½ for Yellow Dragon and for Tea Caddy, X.X. Black £1.42, D.D.D. Blue at £1.60½, and Double Blue £1.66½/66½ per piece.

At Jin-kee, same day, 250 pieces Gold Scroll at £1.61½ per piece.

At Yuen-fong, on the 20th ultimo, 8,680 pieces; at £1.15½ for Two Man, £1.21½/22 for House, £1.35½ and £1.51½ for Loyal Son, blue, and painted, £1.37½ and £1.45½/46½ for Britannia, blue and painted, £1.88½ and £1.46½/47 for Four Sisters, blue and red, £1.45½ and £1.50½ for Three Students, blue and red, and £1.55½ for Five Brothers.

On 28th ultimo, 8,930 pieces; at £1.15½ for Two Man, £1.21½/21½ for House, £1.34½, £1.48½ and £1.52½ for Loyal Son, blue, red and painted, £1.37½ and £1.46½ for Britannia, blue and painted, £1.37½ and £1.46½/46½ for Four Sisters, blue and red, £1.44½ and £1.50½/51 for Three Students, blue and red, £1.53½/59 for Red Unicorn, £1.55½ for Five Brothers, and £1.63½ for Chop Dollar.

At Kin-ming, this morning, 2,000 pieces; at £1.49½/50 for Red Eagle, £1.35 for Red Goose, and £1.35½/34½ for Red Phoenix.

At Pao-shun, this afternoon, 3,750 pieces; at £1.41½/41½ for Lion-on-Bale, £1.62 for Green Lion A, and £1.68½, £1.64½/64½, and £1.65 for Eagle X.X.X., unlettered, and X.X.

6-lbs.—20th, 1,350 pieces; at £0.88½ for Two Man, and £0.90½ for Three Students.

28th, 875 pieces; at £0.88½/89 for Two Man, and at £0.91½ for Three Students.

7-lbs.—20th, 2,100 pieces; Loyal Son £1.03½, Britannia £1.06½, Four Sisters £1.15½, and Three Students £1.23/22½ per piece.

28th, 1,860 pieces; Loyal Son £1.04½, Britannia £1.05½/06, Four Sisters £1.15, Three Students £1.21½ per piece.

9½-lbs. a 11-lbs.—On 19th and 20th ultimo, 6,650 pieces; at £2.06/06½ for D.D.D. Blue Tea Caddy, £1.69½, £1.83½ and £2.00 for Loyal Son, blue, red and painted, £1.70½, £1.85/85½ and £2.07/07½ for Britannia, blue, red and painted, and £1.01½ and £2.16½ for Three Students, red and painted.

On 28th ultimo, 5,400 pieces; at £1.66½, £1.83/83½ and £2.00½ for Loyal Son, blue, red and painted, £1.70, £1.86½/86½ and £2.07/07½ for Britannia, blue, red and painted, £1.98½ for Blue Lion, £1.91½ and £2.15½ for Three Students, blue and red, £1.08 for Red Four Sisters, and £2.00½ and £2.31 for Chop Dollar 10lbs. and 11lbs.

12-lbs.—20th, 520 pieces English; Single and Double Squirrel £2.26½ and £2.39½, and Soldier £2.34½ per piece.

28th, 420 pieces English; Single and Double Squirrel £2.27½ and £2.39½, and Soldier £2.33½ per piece.

White Shirtings.—20th ultimo, 64-reed, 2,850 pieces; at £1.32½ and £1.31 for House, dressed and undressed, £1.41/41½ and £1.38½/38½ for Lighthouse, dressed and undressed, and £1.65½ for Black-Gold Three Students.

28th, 2,900 pieces; at £1.38½ and £1.31 for House, £1.41½ and £1.38½ for Blue Lighthouse, as above, and £1.85½ for Black-Gold Three Students.

To-day, 200 pieces Green Lion C.P.H. at £1.40½/40½ per piece.

20th, 72-reed,—2,950 pieces; at £1.82½ for White-Gold Three Students, £1.84 for Red Two Sisters, £1.85½/85½ and £1.84½ for Red Lighthouse, as above, and £2.00½/00½ and £1.99 for Red Star as above.

28th, 2,990 pieces; at £1.81½ for White-Gold Three Students, £1.85/85½ and £1.83½ for Red Lighthouse, as customary, and £1.99½/99½ and £1.96½/97½ for Red Star, as customary.

White Irishes.—100 and 400 pieces Green-Gold Three Students at £2.27½ and £2.28½/29 per piece.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—On 19/20th ultimo, 2,960 pieces; at £1.12½/13 for X. Red Tea Caddy, £1.04 for Blue Loyal Son, £1.04½/04½ and £1.17½ for Britannia, blue and painted, £1.07½ and £1.30½ for Three Students, blue and red, £1.11½ for Blue Lion, £1.27½ for X.X. Eagle.

On 28th, 1,840 pieces; at £1.03½ for Blue Loyal Son, £1.04½ and £1.16½ for Britannia, blue and painted, £1.07½ and £1.34 for Three Students, blue and red, £1.12½ for Blue Lion, and £1.27½ for X.X. Eagle.

To-day, 750 pieces at £1.00½/00½ for Green Eagle, £1.00 for Green Ram, and £1.18½ for Black Goose M.T.

8-lbs.—On 19/20th ultimo, 1,520 pieces; at £1.38 for Blue Dragon and Flag, £1.36 for Blue Lion, £1.42½ for X.X. Eagle, and £1.50 for Painted Three Students.

Drills.—English, 20th ultimo, 850 pieces; at £1.39/39½ for Peacock, £2.01/01½ for Stag, £2.26½/26½ for Britannia, £2.28½/28½ for Old Man Head, and £2.30 for Beaver.

On 28th, 720 pieces; at £2.00½ for Stag, £2.26 for Britannia, £2.26½/27 for Old Man Head, and £1.32½ for Indian Head.

Shootings.—English, on 20th ultimo, 360 pieces; at £2.28½/28½ for Lion, and £2.48/48½ for Old Man Head.

28th ultimo, 360 pieces; at £2.27½ for Lion, and £2.48 for Old Man Head.

To-day, 150 pieces Black Bird and Snail at £2.06 per piece.

Jeans.—English, 20th ultimo, 560 pieces; at £1.33½/34½ for Peacock, and £1.82½ for Double Squirrel.
 23th ultimo, 609 pieces; at £1.34½/34½ for Peacock, and £1.82 for Double Squirrel.
Cotton Yarn.—English; 23th ultimo, 5 bales 30/32s. Gold Three Students at £67½ and £70½ per bale.
Velvets.—150 pieces Woman (Sin-wo) at £0.12.3½ per yard.
Velveteens.—26-inch 30 pieces Stag at £0.16.9½ per yard.

WOOLLENS.

Auctions—	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Gentian.	Green, and N. Green.	Orange and Yellow.	Ash & Lav.	White	Purple	Black.	Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gt. Mid. ..	Sales Pcs.
E-wo, 19th instant.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	
Camlets, Horseman...	8.31	9.30/33	9.51	9.04	...	...	...	...	8.18	...	10.16	8.46	
Sales, pcs...	10	30	10	10	...	...	...	...	10	...	10	10	90
" Yel. Dr. L.L.	8.40/41	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Sales, pcs...	9.50	...	...	...	8.91	...	...	...	8.41	...	...	8.80	50
" House...	10	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	10	...	...	10	100
Sales, pcs...	9.21	7.65	9.03	9.30	8.68	...	...	...	...	...	9.78	8.20	100
" Boar...	30	10	20	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	10	10	100
Sales, pcs...	4.89/90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Long Ells, H.D.B.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Sales, pcs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.25/28	...	...	...	100
Lasting, Camels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Sales, pcs...	0.41.6/41.7	0.36	0.44/44.2	0.39	...	...	...	...	0.35.6	...	...	...	96
S. Stripes, Eagle	48	6	30	6	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
JIN-KEE, 19th instant.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Camlets, U.U., p.p.	9.65/66	...	9.74	...	...	9.40	9.91	...	...	...	...	...	100
Sales, pcs...	50	...	30	...	...	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	100
" Dove, p.p.	9.52/52½	...	9.60/61	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.12	...	110
Sales, pcs...	60	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	200
L. Ells, U.U., p.p.	4.87	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
Sales, pcs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
" Dove	4.82/83	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
S. Stripes, U.U.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
YUEN-RONG, 20th inst.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Camlets, S.S.G.p.pcs.	10.05/07½	10.17½/22½	10.30/32½	...	9.85/87½	...	10.47½	9.95	...	8.35	10.65	9.67½/82½	600
Sales, pcs...	240	90	160	...	30	...	10	10	...	10	20	30	300
" G.G., p.p.	10.12½/15	10.55/57½	10.52½	...	10.57½	...	10.00	10.00	...	...	11.02½	9.85/87½	100
Sales, pcs...	120	50	70	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	20	20	120
Long Ells, G.G., p.p.	5.26	5.79	5.45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Sales, pcs...	80	20	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Lasting, G.G., p.p.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.37½	...	...	8.60	100
Sales, pcs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80	...	...	20	100
" Man & Tiger	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.00/02½	...	...	6.72½	100
Sales, pcs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80	...	...	20	100
" Nine Old Men	...	...	7.50	...	...	...	...	...	7.02½	...	...	...	100
Sales, pcs...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	80	...	...	...	100
S. Stripes, T.T.B.	0.46½/47	0.45½	0.49½	...	...	...	0.45½	0.46	...	0.47½	...	...	126
Sales, pcs...	66	12	30	...	...	...	6	6	...	6	...	...	
YUEN-RONG 28th int.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Camlets, S.S.G.p.pcs.	10.10/15	10.16/17½	10.37½/40	...	9.97½	...	...	...	...	...	10.65/67½	9.85	400
Sales, pcs...	160	80	90	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	30	20	300
" G.G., p.p.	10.16/17½	10.55/57½	10.55/67½	...	10.60/62½	9.77½	...	...	...	...	11.07½	9.92½	100
Sales, pcs...	120	50	80	...	20	10	...	...	...	...	10	10	100
Long Ells, G.G., p.p.	5.30	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.36	...	...	...	...	100
Sales, pcs...	80	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	100
Lastings, G.G., p.p.	...	...	8.17½	...	...	...	...	...	9.30/35	...	...	8.62½	200
Sales, pcs...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	160	...	...	20	100
" Man & Tiger	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.95/97½	...	...	6.70	100
Sales, pcs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80	...	...	20	100
" Nine Old Men	...	...	7.45	...	...	...	...	...	6.97½	...	...	...	100
Sales, pcs...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	80	...	...	...	100
S. Stripes, T.T.B.	0.46½/46½	0.44½/44½	0.48½	0.48½	0.45	0.46½	0.47½	0.45	...	0.46½	...	...	252
Sales, pcs...	132	24	60	6	6	6	6	6	...	6	...	...	
KIN-MING, to-day.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Camlets, C.P.H.p.pcs.	10.53	10.69/70	10.56/57	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.86	10.02/48	130
Sales, pcs...	50	20	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	30	20
" Tiger	9.76	9.18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	260
Sales, pcs...	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	130
" Eagle	10.08/10	9.42/44	10.29	9.95	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.67	9.89	130
Sales, pcs...	120	40	40	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	40	130
" Swan p.p.	9.89/90	9.01	10.06	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.50	9.83	130
Sales, pcs...	60	20	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	20	130
" Duck	9.67/67½	8.32	9.59/58	...	...	...	...	...	8.16	...	...	9.21	130
Sales, pcs...	60	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	20	130
" Cook	9.14/15	7.51	9.21	...	...	8.48	...	...	...	...	...	8.6½/66	130
Sales, pcs...	60	20	20	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	20	130
" Parrot	8.98/99	7.12	9.05	...	...	...	...	...	6.56	...	...	8.00	130
Sales, pcs...	60	20	20	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	20	130
Lastings, Tiger	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.40	...	...	...	100
Sales, pcs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
SIN-wo, to-day.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Camlets, Owl, O.O.O.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs...	9.52/52½	9.58	9.75	9.91	9.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
" Gold Fish, P.P.P.	40	30	10	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Sales, pcs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
" R.R.R. Angler.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
L. Ells, H.H., p.p.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Lastings, H.H. p.p.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.09	...	...	...	40
Sales, pcs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
" White Stork	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs...	0.45.8/45½	0.43.9	0.51.4/51½	0.45.1	...	...	...	...	0.44/44.2	...	...	...	216
S. Stripes, H.H.	90	24	36	...	...	...	...	...	18	...	...	...	72
Sales, pcs...	0.41.2	0.38½	0.43.7	0.42.1	...	...	...	...	0.37	...	...	...	
" Gold Fish, P.P.P.	36	6	18	6	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

MISCELLANEOUS, Yday		8.96/99		8.50/60																	
Camlets, R.R.		30		30																	
Sales, pcs.																					
Lastings—																					
No. 3 D'ble Dragon																					
X 4 Double Dragon																					
No. 4 D'ble Dragon																					
S.Stripes, No. 100 p.p.		0.35,2																			
Sales, pcs.																					
Union Cloths.		0.49																			
Sales, pcs.																					

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.				DUTY.		QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.				DUTY.	
G. K. GERRY SHIRTINGS—				Tls. m. c.		PRINTED TOWLS—24/25 yds				Tls. m. c.	
6-lbs 39-in 38½ yds. nom				0.85 to 0.0		50/52 ..				1.10 " 1.70	
7-lbs ..				0.87½ " 1.30		Special ..				2.60 " 3.25	
Dewhurst's Eagle ..				None ..						3.50 " 3.80	
8½ to 8½-lbs ..				1.05 " 1.75		TURKEY REDS—					
D. Eagle and XX ..				1.63½ " 1.65		24-yd 1½ to 3-lbs. 32-in, nom				0.60 " 1.35	
9 to 9½-lbs .. nom				1.65 " 1.85		Best ..				1.25 " 1.80	
9½ to 10-lbs ..				1.75 " 2.20							
Dewhurst's, Best ..				2.02½ " 2.35		VELVETS—Black, 22-in. nom				0.11½ " 0.17	
11 to 12-lbs English 36 in ..				2.05 " 2.40		VELVETRENS—Black, 18-in ..				0.10 " 0.14	
12-lbs American 32/56 in ..				2.20 " 2.45		26-in ..				0.16 " 0.18	
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—						BLUE DENIMS .. nom				0.03 " 0.04	
40-yds 36-in 56-rd.				1.10 " 1.25		DIMITIES—12-yd 37-in ..				0.90 " 1.20	
60-reed ..				1.20 " 1.35		41-in ..				1.00 " 1.61	
64 ..				1.30 " 1.77½		MUSLINS—12-yd 42-in ..				0.40 " 0.72½	
64 .. Best and 66-reed ..				1.65 " 1.82½		YARN—COTTON—Nos. 28/32 ..				62.50 " 70.00	
72 to 80-reed ..				1.75 " 2.20		16/24, nom ..				51.00 " 60.00	
Best ..				2.10 " 3.40		CAMLETS—English, SS.				10.00 " 10.50	
DRILLS, Am. 40-yd 30-in 14-lbs				2.40 " 2.60		GG ..				8.40 " ..	
English, 14 to 15-lbs ..				1.35 " 1.90		SSG ..				10.22 " ..	
Good to Finest ..				1.80 " 2.45		HDB ..				9.77 " ..	
Dutch, 14 to 14½-lbs. nom				2.00 " 2.30		CPH ..				10.54 " ..	
JEANS, Dh., 30-yd 30-in 8½-lbs				1.65 " 1.82½		Dutch, 33 to 2 4-in nom.				15.00 " 18.00	
English, 8 to 8½-lbs ..				1.30 " 1.95		Do, 37-in ..				17.25 " 22.00	
American, Beaver ..				1.70 " 1.95		MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS ..				0.60 " 1.40	
SHIRTINGS—						SPANISH STRIPES ..				0.30 " 0.55	
Am., 40-yd 36/38-in 14-lb. nom.				2.20 " 2.60		HDB ..				0.45½ " 0.48	
Eng., 14 to 16-lb.				1.45 " 2.52½		TTB ..				0.44½ " 0.48½	
T.CLOTHS—						HH ..				0.43-9 " 0.51½	
6-lbs 24-yd 32-in Ord., nom				0.75 " 0.90		BTI ..				0.42½ " 0.46½	
7-lbs ..				0.80 " 0.97½		CPH ..				0.40-6 " 0.50	
6-lbs Mexican ..				none		LONG ELLS—					
7-lbs ..				0.95 " 1.35		Scarlet, 24-yd GG.				5.30 " ..	
7-lbs Mexican Special chops				1.25 " 1.75		HH .. nom.				5.69 " 5.70	
8 to 8½-lbs ..				1.20 " 1.60		CPH ..				5.00 " ..	
Better kinds and XX ..				1.65 " 2.00		UU ..				4.88 " 4.89	
HANDKERCHIEFS—						HDB ..				4.89 " 4.90	
Blue, 28 to 32-in ..				0.40 to 0.55		V ..				4.87½ " ..	
Brown .. nom				0.37½ " 0.41		Dove ..				4.84 " ..	
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS—White				1.80 " 2.00		Sundries ..				3.50 " 5.50	
Dyed, nom ..				2.00 " 2.30		Assorted, HH ..				nom. " ..	
BROCADES—White, 40-yd ..				1.85 " 2.00		CPH ..				" " ..	
Dyed ..				2.20 " 2.45		GG ..				" " ..	
DAMASKS—Dyed, 40-yd, nom				2.25 " 3.75		UU ..				" " ..	
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS .. nom				1.85 " 2.20		LASTINGS, 30-yd ..				5.00 " 8.50	
CRINTZ—Assorted ..				0.90 " 1.40		CRAPE LASTINGS, 30-yd nom				2.25 " 5.75	
Blue ..				0.90 " 1.15		PLAIN LUSTRES ..				" " ..	
Brown .. nom				1.00 " 1.20		PLAIN LUSTRES, Black ..				2.75 " 3.40	
Scarlet ..				0.90 " 1.35		ONLANS—Figured, 30-yd ..				2.20 " 2.75	
						Special Colors & Patterns ..				2.50 " 3.30	

Per Chang of 141 inches.

METALS.		QUOTATIONS.		SUNDRIES.		QUOTATIONS.	
		T.m.c.	T.m.c.			T.m.c.	T.m.c.
JAPAN COPPER—Tiles, best	per picul	11.10	@ 11.60	SUGAR—			
Ore		11.00	" 11.80	White, Canton, No. 1	per picul	4.90	@ 5.20
QUICKSILVER—American in flasks of 75-lbs. net		61.00	"	" " " 2		4.20	@ 4.60
TIN PLATES—Parson's.....	per box	3.70	" 3.80	White, Swatow, No. 1		3.90	@ 4.10
Other brands.....	"	3.60	" 3.70	" " " 2		5.00	@ 5.40
Decorated	"	5.00	" 6.50	" " " 3		4.60	@ 4.80
STEEL, Plain	per picul	2.55	" 2.60	Brown, Canton, Best.....		4.00	@ 4.30
Hamboe	"	2.60	" 2.70	" " " Common.....		3.00	@ 3.20
TIN, Fong Hing	"	28.75	"	" Swatow, Best.....		2.60	@ 2.80
Fok Chok	"	27.80	"	" " " Common.....		3.20	@ 3.50
Sok-kong and other brands	"	27.00	"	PEPPER—Black		2.80	@ 3.00
PIG IRON, Gartaherrie No. 1	per ton	19.00	" 20.00	White		16 00	@ 17.50
No. 3	"	18.00	" 18.50	BATTANS—Common		24 50	@ 28.00
Common brands	"	15.50	" 16 00	Best		2.70	@ 3.10
IRON WIRE, Nos. 11 & 21	per picul	3.60	" 3.80	JAPAN WOOD.....	per picul	4.10	@ 4.80
" " 14 & 25	"	3.85	" 4.00	SANDALWOOD, South Sea		2.50	@ 3.30
" " 18 & 25	"	3.90	" 4.10	Timor		3.30	@ 3.60
IRON—Nail Rod—				Malabar		5.00	@ 7.00
Dawes' Best	per picul	1.90	" 1.95	WINDOW GLASS—		14 00	@ 16.30
Scotch	"	1.90	" 1.95	Good assortments	per box	2.20	@ 2.30
Belgian, common	"	1.57½	" 1.60	MATCHES—			
" Sohier	"	1.60	" 1.62½	Swedish Safety, Black Dip	per case	11.00	@ 17.00
English—Bar	"	1.60	" 1.90	Do. Red	"	12.00	@ 18.00
Belgian—	"	1.60	" 1.70	Paraffin	"	14.00	@ 20.00
Swedish	"	2.85	" 3.10	Japanese	"	8.00	@ 12.00
LEAD—				Vienna Brilliant	p. 25 gross	13.00	@ 18.00
L.B.	"			KROSSENK—Devos's	per case	1.16	@ 1.17
Euthoven.....	"	4.17½	" 4.20	FLINT STONES	per picul	0.54	@ 0.64
				COTTON—Shanghai, best.....		9.30	@
				Compoek		9.50	@
				RICE—Shanghai	p. 150 cat.	2.90	@ 3.20
				Chinkiang.....	"	2.60	@ 2.80
				HIDES—Cow	per picul	13.20	@

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the fortnight ending 31st ultimo, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 14 to 21, both inclusive.

RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.

Goods.	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kinkiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Higo.	Yokohama.	Corea.	Local.	Nandoo.
Grey Shirtings	810	720	22,473	2,505	9,765	48,860	7,140	...	...	250	1,500	...	1,250	...	500	2,000	300
T-Cloths, 32-in.	50	545	960	680	1,750	2,405	1,980	...	...	820	...	...	400	...	...	1,000	...
" 36-in.	60	...	480	50	460	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...
White Shirtings	50	210	2,050	610	2,825	15,067	1,350	...	...	...	...	...	990	...	...	300	460
Drills, English & Dutch	...	...	985	...	...	765	465	...	...	...	90	...	...	...	195	30	...
" American	105	...	235	...	...	300	990	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75	60	...
Jeans, English & Dutch	...	...	20	...	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" American	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sheetings, English	...	...	395	470	90	2,120	4,670	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" American	200	...	325	...	60	200	2,740	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80	...
Dyed Shirtings	1,550	...	1,949	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades & Sp. S'tings, White	...	...	...	...	50	...	199	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Dyed	...	...	540	...	30	580	300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Damasks, Dyed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes	...	...	1,161	...	594	649	196	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	260	...
Printed T-Cloths	...	...	720	...	60	410	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Printed Twills	...	...	520	...	...	350	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Turkey Red Shirtings	203	...	1,223	100	50	2,020	1,206	...	...	250	...	...	2,000	...	...	120	100
Velvets	...	30	54	78	78	631	150	...	...	60	...	...	72	96	...	30	...
Velveteens	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Handkerchiefs	...	...	1,660	2,040	800	900	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Muslins	...	...	100	...	100	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dimities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton Yarn	...	...	...	...	978	333	2,244	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...
Spanish Stripes	84	307	174	18	96	259	54	...	...	72	16	...	...	...	...	18	6
Medium and Broad Cloths	...	...	12	...	16	200	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Camlets	10	180	53	60	610	1,920	20	...	...	90	50	...	...	...	...	50	40
Long Ellis	...	40	180	80	400	1,180	...	...	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	40	...
Lastings	20	40	70	...	190	940	70	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	40
" Crapes	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lastings, Cotton & Italians	...	...	1,101	30	60	2,052	1,234	...	...	...	...	...	433	...	...	...	...
Lastings, Plain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Figured	...	60	180	...	120	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...
" Crapes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead in Pigs	142	...	564	38	500	852	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	1,374	84	273	78	144	97	1,869	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	TOTAL DELIVERIES.			TOTAL IMPORTS.			STOCKS AT DATE ARE BASED ON THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS, OF 1ST JAN., 1887.	
	As above.	For Year From 1st Jan., 1887.	Against last year same terms.	Since 17th inst.	For Year From 1st Jan., 1887.	Against last year same terms.	*At date Estimated.	Against 20th Jan., 1886.
Grey Shirtings	98,075	123,155	140,927	98,265	184,204	97,184	1,222,000	921,300
T-Cloths, 32-in.	10,595	18,225	25,095	38,350	70,395	25,955	344,800	278,700
" 36-in.	1,350	2,170	3,515	10,430	24,893	6,080	112,500	86,600
White Shirtings	23,912	28,207	32,422	16,068	29,136	34,918	263,050	420,800
Drills, English and Dutch	2,530	3,305	1,790	5,400	10,275	9,925	127,300	41,300
" American	1,785	2,040	2,160	15,000	15,750	1,050	24,060	13,400
Jeans, English and Dutch	220	680	760	6,260	8,970	980	21,220	23,300
" American	100	160	40	...	...	...	6,940	7,930
Sheetings, English	7,745	8,365	4,915	3,880	9,120	5,450	32,880	78,650
" Am.	3,605	6,100	7,960	5,000	18,471	7,950	142,160	232,260
Dyed Shirtings	3,499	3,599	1,051	2,232	3,636	596	12,270	5,600
Bro. & Spot. Shirts, White	249	249	51	...	...	...	1,250	2,386
" Dyed	1,450	1,560	928	500	704	...	13,030	11,700
Damasks, Dyed	...	...	50	...	...	...	567	690
Chintzes	2,860	3,490	3,236	3,944	8,311	6,429	77,700	56,100
Printed T-Cloths	1,390	1,630	1,540	752	2,233	1,470	80,020	58,500
Printed Twills	870	1,049	703	...	...	6,263	78,750	81,700
Turkey Red Shirtings	7,272	9,886	9,294	425	8,064	6,228	144,350	164,900
Velvets	1,279	1,719	1,302	670	1,252	840	22,170	14,860
Velveteens	30	50	400	336	504	1,080	3,360	2,800
Handkerchiefs	5,640	6,240	7,190	7,284	15,733	...	132,070	89,700
Muslins	400	6,214	7,000	26	5,026	6,200	102,650	79,960
Dimities	...	...	100	...	...	...	5,645	...
Cotton Yarn	3,558	4,269	2,181	5,415	7,959	942	15,500	18,390
Spanish Stripes	1,104	1,329	1,222	456	1,650	3,692	21,000	16,700
Medium and Broad Cloths	258	288	734	1,169	1,289	...	21,280	13,760
Camlets	3,083	3,633	3,440	2,300	6,400	2,760	25,960	15,770
Long Ellis	1,960	2,180	2,320	1,600	3,620	1,620	15,140	4,840
Lastings	1,390	1,470	3,240	1,490	5,525	3,837	57,950	25,180
" Crapes	20	20	20	...	...	...	680	1,180
Cotton Lastings & Italians	4,910	6,323	5,607	4,424	13,634	7,484	110,240	156,860
Lastings, Plain	...	...	100	...	...	...	660	1,350
" Figured	510	690	2,160	...	128	2,540	37,870	27,350
" Crapes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	800
Lead in Pigs	2,126	2,210	2,564	420	3,790	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	3,919	4,574	7,730	6,720	8,400	3,360	...	...

* Exclusive of undeclared Import Cargoes per *Nepaul, Deucalion, Oceanien, Glengyle, Thames, and Dardanus.*

Import Cargoes declared this week: *Glengyle, Fifeshire, Jason and Neckar.*

† including *English and Dutch 12-lbs.*

PETER MACLEAN.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

2ND FEBRUARY, 1887.

EXCHANGE.—On London—Telegraphic Transfer, 4s. 7½d. Bank Bills, demand, 4s. 7½d. Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 4s. 8½d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 4s. 8½d. 6 months' sight, 4s. 8½d. Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 4s. 8½d. 6 months' sight, 4s. 8½d. On France—Bank Bills, demand, Fcs. 5.87, Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 5.99, 6 months' sight, 6.02. On New York—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 86½. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, 28; Private Bills, 3 days, 23. On Bombay—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 306; Calcutta, Rs. 306. Bullion—Gold Bar, Pekin, 98 touch, £211.00. Silver Bars, £111.10. Mexican Dollars, £72.30. Copper Cash, 1,400. Native Interest, mace 1.5.

SHARES.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—According to telegraphic advices from Hongkong the profits for the half-year to 31st December last are \$370,000
the amount at credit of fund for equalization of dividends was 200,000

out of which the Directors propose to pay a dividend of £1½ per share \$540,000
to carry to credit of contingent fund against losses 500,000
and to carry forward 30,000

\$1,070,000

After the issue of our last report shares were bought from Hongkong at 154½ prem. for delivery on the 31st ulto. The market then weakened, and a large business has been done from Hongkong at from 154½ to 145½ prem. for delivery on 31st March, 145½ prem. for 23rd February, and from 150½ to 145½ prem. cash. The market is again stronger, shares having been placed at 147½ prem. for 31st March, and 145½ prem. and ex. 73 for cash. There are now sellers for cash at 145½ prem. and ex. 73.

Shanghai Tug Boat Association.—Business has been done in this stock at £87½ to £90 cash.

Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited.—Shares have changed hands at £110 ex div.

Canton Insurance Office.—There are sellers of this stock at £75.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Limited.—Shares are wanted at £127½, and ex. 73.

China Fire Insurance Co., Limited.—Buyers offer £88, but shares are held for \$89.

Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Shares have been placed at £170 and £168.

Footung Wharf & Godown Co.—Business has been done in this stock at £110 to £112 cash, £114 for 28th February, and £114 to £116 for 31st March.

Sheridan Mining Co.—Buyers offer £115, but shares are held for £117½.

Shanghai Waterworks Co., Limited.—Shares have changed hands at £28 and ex. 4/7½.

Perak Sugar Cultivation Co.—There are sellers of this stock at £16.

Hall & Holtz Co-operative Co., Limited.—Shares have been sold at £26, and are offering at the same rate.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATIONS.
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.	
Bank.									
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co.	60,000	\$125	\$125	4,500,000.00	\$111,760.34	30 June 86	* £2	30 Aug. 86	145½ prem.
New Oriental Bank Corp., Ltd.	50,000	£10	£10	\$200,000.00	£106,155.18	31 Mar. 86	* 2½ %	19 Feb. 86	£10
Shipping.									
Shanghai Tug Boat Association	1,000	£100	£100	\$5,100.00	\$4,625.74	31 Mar. 86	* 3 %	14 Jan. 87	£90
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co.	60,000	£10	£10		\$4,387.5.9	31 Dec. 85	+ 7 %	2 Aug. 86	£35
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	\$1,000	\$1,000		\$519.89	30 June 86	+ 5 %	3 Aug. 85	\$700 nominal.
China Shippers' Mutual S.N. Co.	50,000	£20	£10	£11,764.15.1	£1,234.10.1	31 Dec. 85	5 %	30 Apr. 86	£7½
Docks.									
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	£500	£500	\$18,000.00	\$234.45	31 Dec. 86	* 2 %	14 Jan. 87	325
Footung Dock Co.	950	£100	£100	\$1,900	\$387.77	31 Dec. 86	* 5 %	14 Jan. 87	126½
Gaz.									
Shanghai Gas Co.	2,000	£100	£100	\$51,794.47	\$47,565.04	31 Dec. 85	* 6 %	13 Jan. 87	184
Compagnie du Gaz	500	£100	£100	\$17,134.69	\$89.92	31 Dec. 85	* 6 %	6 July 86	167
Insurance (Marine.)									
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited	24,000	\$83.33	\$25	\$600,000.00	\$187,524.75	30 A. 1. 86	20 %	30 Aug. 86	\$63
North-China Ins. Co., Ltd.	5,000	\$200	\$50	\$102,512.26	\$406,132.00	30 June 86	\$22.05	30 A. 1. 86	\$265
Union In. Society of Canton Ltd.	10,000	\$250	\$25	\$614,000.00	\$314,012.96	30 June 86	* 6½	2 Oct. 86	\$83
Yangtze Insurance Ass'n Ltd.	8,000	\$25	\$25	\$85,000.00	\$92,142.93	31 Mar. 85	* 3½ %	21 July 86	\$110
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	\$1,000	\$200	\$28,711.50	\$2,888.89	31 Dec. 85	* 3 %	8 Oct. 86	\$180
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$188,000.00	\$494,906.00	30 Sep. 86	+ 10 %	11 Jan. 87	\$75
Insurance (Fire.)									
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Limited	8,000	\$150	\$50	\$1,000,000.00	\$283,482.55	31 Dec. 85	+ \$55 %	3 Mar. 86	\$430
China Fire Ins. Co., Limited	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$566,700.00	\$168,811.67	31 Dec. 85	+ 30 %	2 Mar. 86	\$89
Wharfs.									
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co.	2,867	£100	£100	\$71,700.00	\$68.83	31 Dec. 85	* 5 %	28 July 86	£168
Mirt's Wharf Hide-Curing and Wool-Cleaning Company	2,100	£50	£50	\$3,449.46	\$308.81	31 Oct. 86	* 3½ %	20 Nov. 86	£22
Footung Wharf & Godown Co.	2,300	£100	£100		\$9,418.94	31 Dec. 85	* 4 %	31 July 86	£112
Mining.									
Perak Tin Mining & Smelting Co.	5,000	\$50	\$50		\$2,552.08	31 Dec. 85	None.		\$17
Sheridan Mining Co.	2,800	£100	£100		\$1,600.76	31 Dec. 85	\$5	11 Jan. 87	£115
Cargo Boats.									
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£200	£200	\$6,710.47		31 Dec. 85	* 4 %	3 Aug. 86	£164
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£100	£100	\$1,000.00	\$595.07	31 Dec. 85	* 3 %	2 Aug. 86	£70
Miscellaneous.									
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	6,000	£20	£20	\$5,000.00	\$574.4.10	31 Dec. 85	+ 1½ %	18 May 86	£28
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd., New Shares	1,200	£20	£5				None.		£7½
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co.	5,000	£50	£50		\$122,192.29		None.		£16
Hall & Holtz Co-op'tive Co., Ltd.	6,000	£50	£50		\$2,632.52	28 Feb. 85	£24	30 Apl. 86	£25

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mnn. Debentures—Issue 1876	£ 24,000.00	£ 24,000.00	£ 100	8 %	Dec. & June.	£103
Do. 1882	£ 60,000.00	£ 60,000.00	£ 100	7 %	1 ^o .	£105 nom.
Do. 1883	£ 45,000.00	£ 45,000.00	£ 100	7 %	Do.	£106 "
Do. 1885	£ 30,000.00	£ 30,000.00	£ 100	7 %	Do.	£105 "
China Merchants' S.N. Co. Debentures	£ 300,000	All.	£ 100	7 %	Quarterly	£106
Chinese Imperial Government Loan 1881	\$ 4,384,000	\$ 7548,000.00	\$ 500	8 %	May & Nov.	\$510
Do. do. 1884 A	\$ 1,394,700.14	\$ 488,145.05	\$ 500	8 %	Yearly.	\$ 500 nom.
Do. do. 1884 B	\$ 1,394,700.14	All.	\$ 500	8 %	Do.	\$525
Do. do. 1884 C	\$ 1,594,700.14	All.	\$ 500	8 %	Do.	\$530
Do. do. 1885	\$ 1,394,700.14	All.	\$ 500	8 %	Do.	500 ex int., nom.
Do. do. 1886 E	\$ 767,200	All.	£ 250	7 %	Mar. & Sept.	£283

* For half-year. † For quarter year. ‡ For year. § A debit. \$ Respective for equalization of dividends, (a) At credit of underwriting account.

J. P. BISSET & Co.